



BOROUGH OF BATLEY.

ANNUAL REPORT

OF THE

MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH

for the Year 1934.

G. H. PEARCE, M.D. (Durh.), M.R.C.P. (Lond.), D.P.H. (Camb.),
Of the Inner Temple, Barrister-at-Law.

BATLEY.

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To the Right Hon Sir E. Hilton Young, Minister of Health, and the Mayor, Aldermen and Councillors of the Borough of Batley.

This Annual Report is compiled in accordance with the requirements of Circular 1417 (England), issued by the Ministry of Health, 25th October, 1934.

General Statistics, 1934.

Area of Borough in Acres	3,227
Civil Population (Registrar-General's Estimate)	33,890
Population at Census of 1931 (Males 16,047, Females 18,526)	34,573
Number of Inhabited Houses (Census 1931)	9,808
Total Private Families at Census (1931)	9,833
Population living more than two persons per room (Census, 1931)	14.0%
Number of inhabited houses, 1934 (according to Rate-books)	10,249
Average number of persons per house	3.3
Density of population, per acre	10.5
Number of Births (Males 224, Females 229)	453
Illegitimate Births (Males 9, Females 6)	15
Birth-Rate per 1,000 living	13.4
Number of Still Births Registered	37
Illegitimate Birth-Rate per 1,000 births registered	33.1
Number of Deaths, including Residents, who died away from Batley (Males 210, Females 226)	436
Net Death-Rate per 1,000 living	12.9
Infantile Death-Rate per 1,000 Births Registered	44.2
Illegitimate Death-Rate per 1,000 Births Registered	2.2
Tuberculosis Death-Rate (all forms), per 1,000	0.68
Phthisis Death-Rate per 1,000	0.56
Zymotic Death-Rate per 1,000	0.73
Respiratory Diseases Death-Rate per 1,000 (excluding Phthisis)	0.94
Cancer Death-Rate per 1,000	1.7
Cases of Infectious Disease notified (including all forms of Tuberculosis)	378
Cases of Pulmonary Tuberculosis notified	15
Cases of other forms of Tuberculosis notified	13
Number of Inquests	36
Rateable Value	£147,048
Rate of 1d. in the £ produces Estimated £538 approx.	
Rainfall in inches	22.33
Number of Wet Days	174
Parliamentary Voters	23,931
Local Government Voters	17,650
Poor Law Relief Distributed	£9,400 7s. 11d.
Primary Vaccinations, exclusive of Smallpox Contacts	69
Exemption Certificates Granted	341
Dried Milk given under Milk (Mothers and Children) Order	2,1797 lbs. Cost £144 7s. 11d.
Infants Born during 1934, fed wholly or partially from Public Funds	7.9%

SECTION A.—STATISTICS AND SOCIAL CONDITIONS OF THE AREA.

AREA.—The area of the borough is 3,227 acres.

POPULATION.—At the 1931 Census the population of Batley proved to be 34,573. The Registrar-General estimates the population of Batley at the middle of 1934 to be 33,890.

NUMBER OF INHABITED HOUSES (end of 1934) according to Rate Books was 10,249.

RATEABLE VALUE £147,048

SUM REPRESENTED BY A PENNY RATE ... Estimated £538 (approx.).

SOCIAL CONDITIONS.—These have been described in previous annual reports. Reference may be made to page 5 of the Annual Report for 1930. Pages 4 of the Annual Report for 1933 gives an extract from the local press describing trade conditions. Similar extracts at the end of 1934 shew that there is greater activity in the staple trades of this district and it is expected, according to the local press, that the year 1935 will provide greater prosperity than has been customary in recent years.

**Borough of Batley.—Vital Statistics of Whole District
during 1934 and Previous Years.**

Yearly Average	Estimated Population.	NETT BIRTHS.		NETT DEATHS BELONGING TO THE DISTRICT.			
				Under 1 Year of Age.		At all Ages.	
		Number	Rate per 1,000	Number	Rate per 1,000 Nett Births	Number.	Rate. per 1,000
10 years 1901-10	31,694	827	26.1	143	17.1	537	17.0
10 years 1911-20	36,435	676	20.5	93	12.3	571	16.0
10 years 1921-30	35,765	624	17.3	48	76.5	482	13.4
Year							
1931	34,890	509	14.6	31	60.9	465	13.3
1932	34,550	465	13.4	27	58.06	494	14.3
1933	34,040	447	13.1	26	55.9	503	14.8
1934	33,890	453	13.4	20	44.2	436	12.9
PROVISIONAL FIGURES 1934.							
England & Wales ...	...	...	14.8	...	59	...	11.8
121 County Bor- oughs and Great Towns including London }	...	...	14.7	...	63	...	11.8
135 Smaller Towns	...	...	15.0	...	53	...	11.3
LONDON	...	...	13.2	...	67	...	11.9

	Total.	M.	F.	
Live Births—Legitimate	438	215	223	
Illegitimate	15	9	6	Birth Rate 13.4
Stillbirths	37	22	15	Rate per 1,000 total births 75.5
Deaths	436	210	226	Death Rate 12.9
Deaths from puerperal causes :—				Rate per 1,000 total births.
Puerperal sepsis			Nil.	
Other puerperal causes			5	10.2
Total			5	10.2
Death Rate of Infants under one year of age :—				
All Infants per 1,000 live births				44.2
Legitimate infants per 1,000 legitimate live births				43.4
Illegitimate infants per 1,000 (illegitimate live births)				66.7
Deaths from Measles (all ages)				Nil.
Deaths from Whooping Cough (all ages)				2
Deaths from Diarrhœa (under 2 years of age)				Nil.

There has been excessive mortality during the year from Diphtheria, which was the cause of twenty-two deaths.



BIRTHS.—The Registrar-General reports the registration—which is distinct from notification—of 453 births in Batley during 1934. There were 37 still births registered in addition to the live births.

The nett birth-rate for Batley is 13.4 per thousand of population for the year 1934.

NOTIFICATION OF BIRTHS ACT, 1907.—Doctors notified 64, midwives 385, and other persons 32 births, a total of 481 during 1934. Of these 35 were still births.

INFANTILE DEATH RATE.—This is 44.2 per thousand of the births registered, which is a remarkably low figure for such an industrial area as Batley and the lowest recorded.

GENERAL DEATH RATE is 12.9 per thousand of the population.

A comparison with other years may be made by referring to the Table, which gives the vital statistics for 1934 and previous years.

Causes of Death in Batley for the Year 1934.

1. Typhoid and paratyphoid fevers	—	19. Bronchitis	14
2. Measles	—	20. Pneumonia (all forms) ...	13
3. Scarlet Fever	1	21. Other respiratory diseases	5
4. Whooping Cough	2	22. Peptic Ulcer	3
5. Diphtheria	22	23. Diarrhœa, etc., under 2 years)	—
6. Influenza	3	24. Appendicitis	3
7. Encephalitis lethargica ...	1	25. Cirrhosis of liver	1
8. Cerebro-spinal fever	2	26. Other diseases of liver, etc.	3
9. Tuberculosis of respiratory system	19	27. Other digestive diseases...	9
10. Other tuberculous diseases	4	28. Acute & chronic nephritis	19
11. Syphilis	1	29. Puerperal sepsis	—
12. General paralysis of the insane, tabes dorsalis ...	—	30. Other puerperal causes ...	5
13. Cancer, malignant disease	58	31. Congenital debility, premature birth, malformations, etc.	10
14. Diabetes	4	32. Senility	11
15. Cerebral hemorrhage, etc.	36	33. Suicide	4
16. Heart disease	103	34. Other violence	11
17. Aneurysm	—	35. Other defined diseases ...	40
18. Other circulatory diseases	29	36. Causes ill-defined or unknown	—

Special Causes (included in No. 35 above):—

Smallpox	—	Polioencephalitis	—
Poliomyelitis	—		

Causes of sickness or invalidity specially noteworthy in the area during the year have been Scarlet Fever and Diphtheria, which are referred to later. There does not appear to have been any condition of occupation or environment which has a prejudicial effect on health apart from the local housing conditions and overcrowding. There is no evidence, statistical or otherwise, so far as I am aware, that unemployment has exercised any significant influence on the health or physique of children or adults.

SECTION B.—GENERAL PROVISION OF HEALTH SERVICES FOR THE AREA.

I. Detailed information as to the Health Services was given in the Annual Reports for 1930 and 1931. No alterations or developments have taken place during 1934.

(i) PUBLIC HEALTH OFFICERS OF THE LOCAL AUTHORITY.

(a) MEDICAL.

Medical Officer of Health, Medical Superintendent Maternity and Child Welfare Centres, School Medical Officer and Medical Superintendent Maternity Home	G. H. Pearce, M.D. (Durh.), M. R. C. P. (Lond.), D. P. H., (Camb.), L.R.C.P., L.R.C.S. (Edin.), L.R.F.P.S. (Glas.), Barrister at Law (Inner Temple).
Assistant Medical Officer of Health, M. and C.W. (part time)	Gwendolen Buckle, M.B., B.S., (Durh.).
School Oculist and Hon. Ophth. Surgeon Maternity Home (part time)	Randal Herley, B.A., L.R.C.P., L.R.C.S. (Edin.), L.R.F.P.S. (Glas.).
Dental Surgeon to Ante-Natal Clinic (part-time)	G. C. Grundy, L.D.S., L.R.C.P. and L.R.C.S. (Edin.), L.R.F.P.S. (Glas.).

(b) OTHERS.

School Dentist (part time)	Marion M. Thom, L.D.S.
Veterinary Inspector (part time)	Geo. Whitehead, M.R.C.V.S.
Public Analyst (part time)	F. W. Richardson, F.I.C., F.C.S.
Senior Sanitary Inspector	Harold Hornby, M.R.S.I., + ‡ ¶
District Sanitary Inspectors	{ W. W. Wilkinson, + ‡ ¶ * R. O. Black, + ‡
Superintendent Health Visitor, Superintendent School Nurse, Administrative Matron of Maternity Home	H. Evans, § +
Health Visitors and School Nurses	{ E. Farthing, § + O K Taylor § + O D. M. Hill, § + O M. E. Milburn, § + O
Chief Clerk	H. Ling.
Clerk	K. Lister
Clerk	L. Allatt, × =
Maternity Home—	{ Staff Nurse ... I. A. Walton, § + Nurse Midwife M. Bird, + Midwife ... W. Lowson + Midwife ... G. Ellis +

† Holds Certificate for Sanitary Inspectors, Royal Sanitary Institute.

‡ Holds Certificate for Inspectors of Meat and other Foods, Royal Sanitary Institute.

¶ Holds Certificate for Smoke Inspectors, Royal Sanitary Institute.

§ Holds Certificate for three years' general training, State Registered Nurse.

O Holds Certificate for Health Visitors, Royal Sanitary Institute, approved by Ministry of Health.

+ Holds Certificate of Central Midwives' Board.

× Holds Northern Universities' School Leaving Certificate.

* Holds Certificate for Sanitary Science as applied to Buildings and Public Works, Royal Sanitary Institute.

= Holds Northern Universities' Matriculation Certificate.

(ii) (a) **LABORATORY FACILITIES.**—There has been no change in the existing arrangements. Facilities are provided at the County Council Laboratories, Wakefield, for the examination of pathological and bacteriological specimens. The figures for the year 1934 are :—Bloods for Widal Reaction, 4 ; Sputa for Tuberculosis, 50 ; Swabs for B. Diphtheriæ, 1,041 ; Hairs, etc., for Ringworm, 11 ; Urines for Tuberculosis and General Examination, 17 ; Samples of Water for Bacteriological Examination, 10 ; Miscellaneous, 41 ; a total of 1,154.

(b) **AMBULANCE FACILITIES.**—There has been no change in the arrangements previously described, which are adequate for the requirements of the district. Superintendent Horne, of the local Ambulance Brigade, has continued during the year, and for many years previously, his much appreciated services on behalf of the Association and the town generally.

(c) **NURSING IN THE HOME.**—There have been no changes in the arrangements for general nursing in the Home.

(d) **CLINICS AND TREATMENT CENTRES.**

Name.	Address.	Sessions.	Authority Providing.
Ante Natal Clinic	Maternity Home	Monday, 1-30—3-30.	Batley Corporation
Infant Welfare Centre	Town Mission Hall	Tuesday, 2—4.	Ditto
Ditto	Wesleyan Sunday Sch., Batley Carr	Wednesday, 2-15—3-45	Ditto
Minor Ailments Clinic	School Clinic, Bk Cambridge St.	Daily, 9 a.m. and 4-15 p.m.	Ditto
Ophthalmic Clinic	Ditto	When required, 2—5.	Ditto
Dental Clinic	Ditto	Mon., Tues., Wed 9—12, 2—5. Alternate Saturdays, 9—12.	Ditto
Tuberculosis Dispensary	Branch House, Batley.	Thursdays. 2—4 and 6—8.	West Riding County Council
Treatment Centres for Venereal Disease	Dewsbury Infirmary	Monday, 3. Thursday, 6-30.	Ditto.

(e) **HOSPITALS.**—There were no changes during the year in the hospital services, public or voluntary, whether within or without the area which are used by the inhabitants of the area. The arrangements have been previously described.

The Maternity Home, provided by the Town Council, has been previously described.

During 1934 there were 219 bookings; 206 patients admitted, of whom 15 resided outside the Borough; 203 confinements, including 15 patients who resided outside Batley; and 206 infants born.

Nine per cent. of the Batley patients confined in the Maternity Home were living in lodgings.

Figures for previous years are shewn on pages 8 and 9 of the Annual Report for 1933.

The Housing Conditions of 1,988 patients, residents of Batley, who were confined in the Batley Maternity Home from opening in October, 1922, to December 31st, 1934, were as follows:—

Type of House				Total number of rooms in house							Occupants of House												Circumstances of Patient			
B.	to	B.		1	2	3	4	5	6 and over	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12 or over	Living in own House	Living in own House with Lodgers	Living in			
961	414	588	25	32	764	595	310	233	54	64	578	531	346	194	123	72	33	23	12	12	1476	51	46			

In 1925 it was arranged that it be brought to the notice of all patients that the cost to the Corporation is much greater than the amount paid by individual patients, and each is invited to make such a donation when leaving the Home as their financial circumstances may warrant. The amount contributed up to December 31st, 1934, was £140 11s. 6d., of which £18 9s. 0d. was given during 1934. On no occasion has any donation been made by patients residing outside Batley.

During 1934, the attendances of Batley residents at the Venereal Diseases Clinics were:—

Leeds Infirmary—6 males and 6 females.

Dewsbury Infirmary—56 males and 15 females.

Bradford (St. Luke's) Hospital—1 female.

ANTE-NATAL CLINIC, 1925 to 1934.

	Yearly average. 1925-29.	Year. 1930.	Year. 1931.	Year. 1932.	Year. 1933.	Year. 1934.
Individual patients attending						
Clinic	211	241	252	230	250	267
Patients found normal	62	68	93	56	42	32
Patients found suffering from one or more defects	149	173	159	174	208	235
Total number of attend- ances at Clinic	636	694	789	706	696	705

DEFECTS CLASSIFIED.

Respiratory System, includ- ing Tuberculosis	26	9	3	27	53	69
Circulatory System, exclud- ing Varicose Veins	35	15	15	38	65	81
Digestive System, excluding defective teeth and con- stipation	9	12	19	20	55	40
Urinary System	13	9	10	15	14	11
Small or deformed pelvis ...	10	12	11	19	14	11
Gynæcological defects, in- cluding venereal disease	11	12	12	10	8	5
Deformities of breasts ...	4	11	4	7	2	2
Varicose Veins	42	36	35	19	26	27
Constipation	28	24	38	33	43	35
Placenta Prævia	0.2	Nil.	Nil.	Nil.	Nil.	Nil.
Teeth	47	49	44	61	74	72
Miscellaneous	17	34	19	18	25	18
Anæmia and Debility ...	12	57	28	29	39	45
Ante Partum Hæmorrhage	Nil.	Nil.	Nil.	1	1	1
Communications to practi- tioners respecting patients	64	45	21	20	17	24
Communications to mid- wives respecting patients	0.2	2	1	2	Nil.	1

Thirty-four patients have been referred from the Ante-Natal Clinic for treatment by the Dental Surgeon, Dr. G. C. Grundy, L.D.S.

ATTENDANCES AT WELFARE CENTRES.

Figures shewing the attendances since 1916 are given on page 13 of the Annual Report for 1933.

Those for 1934 are as follows:—

CENTRE.	No. of mothers on register	Expectant Mothers	Mothers with Infants		New admissions		Average attendance per mother
			Under 12 mths.	Between 1 and 5 yrs.	Under 12 mths.	Between 1 and 5 yrs.	
TOWN MISSION	478	32	1,819	985	208	31	5.9
BATLEY CARR	201	6	665	450	67	6	5.5

RECORD OF INFANTS MEDICALLY EXAMINED AT CENTRES DURING RECENT YEARS.

Yearly Average.	New Cases Seen.	ALL CASES.		Not wholly satisfactory.
		Infants under 6 months.	Older Children.	
1926-30	211	358	325	322
Year.				
1931	230	526	598	415
1932	222	497	480	231
1933	226	490	553	193
1934	265	438	581	173

Table showing number of deaths amongst infants who attended or did not attend a Welfare Centre. (Deaths under 4 weeks are not included for feeding or attendance).

Years	Infant Deaths.		Attended Centre.	Not Attended Centre.	Breast Fed.	Artificially Fed.
	Number.	Died in first month.				
1921-33 (inclusive)	565	308	109	148	133	124
Year						
1934	20	11	5	4	5	4

In addition to the foregoing the Health Visitors have made visits to cases of:—

Ophthalmia Neonatorum	5
Puerperal Fever and Puerperal Pyrexia	2
Pneumonia	64
Tuberculosis	166
Still Births	20
Miscellaneous	82
	<hr/>
	339
	<hr/>

The preceding figures do not include visits paid by the nurses in their capacity as School Nurses, which were 3,278. The grand total, therefore, of visits by the Health Visitors and School Nurses during 1934 was 15,606.

INFANT WELFARE CENTRES.

Total number of attendances at all Centres during the year:—

- (i) By children under 1 year of age 2,484
- (ii) By children between the ages of 1 and 5 years 1,435

Total number of children who attended at the Centres for the first time during the year and who, on the date of their first attendance, were:—

- (i) Children under 1 year of age 275
- (ii) Children between the ages of 1 and 5 years 37

Total number of children who attended at the Centres during the year, and who, at the end of the year, were:—

- (i) Children under 1 year of age 230
- (ii) Children between the ages of 1 and 5 years 620

A plan for the erection of a new building to be devoted to Maternity and Child Welfare work, including a Maternity and Child Welfare Centre, was before the Ministry of Health at the close of 1934.

(iv) **INFANT LIFE PROTECTION.**

- (a) Number of persons on the register who were receiving children for reward at the end of the year 1
- (b) Number of children on the Register :—
- (i) At the end of the year 2
 - (ii) Who died during the year None
 - (iii) On whom inquests were held during the year None
- (c) Number of Infant Protection Visitors at the end of the year who were :—
- (i) Health Visitors 5
 - (ii) Female, other than Health Visitors None
 - (iii) Male None

No proceedings were taken during the year, no sanctions were necessary, neither were any orders sought under Sec. 67 of the Act of 1932.

(v) **ORTHOPÆDIC TREATMENT.**—This matter was still under consideration by the Committee at the year end. Particulars are given in previous annual reports.

SECTION C.—SANITARY CIRCUMSTANCES OF THE AREA.

1. (i) **WATER SUPPLY.**—Particulars are given in the Medical Officer's Annual Report for 1930, page 22. The position is the same. The supply is satisfactory in (a) quality, and (b) quantity.

Reports upon chemical and bacteriological examinations of samples are given below:—

City and County Analyst's Office,
Bradford,

July 19th, 1934.

**Analytical Report upon One Sample of Water from Batley
received July 17th, 1934.**

Total solid matters	10.00
Chlorine (Combined) ... ..	.60
Nitrites	None
Nitrogen as Nitrates	None
Free Ammonia ... ..	.0014
Albuminoid Ammonia ... ..	.0007
Lead	None
Total Hardness (Clark)	3.0
pH value	6.3

This is an organically pure water, showing no signs of even bygone infiltrated and oxidised drainage. It is also very soft, so that the supply can be considered excellent for drinking and domestic purposes.

(Signed) RICHARDSON & JAFFE. /

Note made by W. H. Duckworth.—Sample taken from Water Engineer's Office tap from 10 p.m. on the 16th July to 8 a.m. on the 17th July. The tap was sealed during this period.

City and County Analyst's Office,
Bradford,

August 16th, 1934.

Analytical Report upon One Sample of Water from Batley
Received from W. H. Duckworth, Water Engineer, Batley,
August 10th, 1934.

Total Solid Matters	5.0
Chlorine (Combined) ... ..	.5
Nitrites	None
Nitrogen as Nitrates	None
Free Ammonia ... ..	.0021
Albuminoid Ammonia ... ..	.0028
Lead	None
Total Hardness (Clark)	2.6
pH Value	5.9

This is an organically pure water showing no sign of hygone infiltrated and oxidised drainage. It is so very soft that the possibility of plumbo-solvency must not be overlooked. The p.H value shows a slightly acid condition, which suggests that under certain circumstances the water may act upon lead pipes.

(Signed) RICHARDSON & JAFFE.

Note by W. H. Duckworth.—The above sample was taken near the valve shaft at Yateholme Reservoir.

Hustlergate Laboratories,
Bradford,

August 29th, 1934.

HALIFAX WATER.

Analytical Report upon One Sample of Water from W. H.
Duckworth, Water Dept., Woodwell, Batley, received
August 25th, 1934,

Description:—

Appearance:—

Grains per gallon:—

Total Solid Matters	10.0
Chlorine (Combined) ... ..	.8
Nitrites	None
Nitrogen as Nitrates	None
Free Ammonia ... ..	.0035
Albuminoid Ammonia ... ..	.0028
Lead	None
Total Hardness (Clark's Scale)	3.4
Temporary do.	
Permanent do. p.H	9.6

This is an organically pure soft water, excellent for drinking and domestic purposes. It shows no signs of even bygone in-filtered and oxidised drainage.

(Signed) RICHARDSON & JAFFE.

Note.—Water taken from Brighthouse Meter Pit on Saturday, the 25th August, 1934.

**PUBLIC HEALTH LABORATORY, COUNTY HALL,
WAKEFIELD.**

REPORT ON THE BACTERIOLOGICAL EXAMINATION OF—

**Water collected from Staincliffe Service Reservoir, Batley,
received on the 17th July, 1934.**

Bacterial Content.

Average number of organisms developing on agar plates
incubated for 2 days at 37°C. = 15 per c.c. of water.

Average number of organisms developing on agar plates
incubated for 3 days at 22°C. = 86 per c.c. of water.

Presumptive B. coli.

8 per 100 c.c. of water.

The above examination shows that this water is of doubtful
purity.

(Signed) P. L. SUTHERLAND.

27th July, 1934.

**PUBLIC HEALTH LABORATORY, COUNTY HALL,
WAKEFIELD.**

REPORT ON THE BACTERIOLOGICAL EXAMINATION OF—

**Water Collected from Public Supply, Brownhill Reservoir,
received on the 10th August, 1934.**

Bacterial Content.

Average number of organisms developing on agar plates
incubated for 2 days at 37°C. = 120 per c.c. of water.

Average number of organisms developing on agar plates
incubated for 3 days at 22°C. = 280 per c.c. of water.

Presumptive B. coli.

6 per 100 c.c. of water.

The above examination shows that this water is of doubtful
purity.

(Signed) P. L. SUTHERLAND,

14th August, 1934.

**PUBLIC HEALTH LABORATORY, COUNTY HALL,
WAKEFIELD.**

REPORT ON THE BACTERIOLOGICAL EXAMINATION OF—

**Water collected from Public Supply, Yateholme Reservoir,
received on the 10th August, 1934.**

Bacterial Content.

Average number of organisms developing on agar plates
incubated for 2 days at 37°C. = 100 per c.c. of water.

Average number of organisms developing on agar plates
incubated for 3 days at 22°C. = 560 per c.c. of water.

Presumptive B. coli.

6 per 100 c.c. of water.

The above examination shows that this water is of doubtful
purity.

(Signed) P. L. SUTHERLAND.

14th August, 1934.

**PUBLIC HEALTH LABORATORY, COUNTY HALL,
WAKEFIELD.**

REPORT ON THE BACTERIOLOGICAL EXAMINATION OF—

**Water collected from Inlet Basin at Staincliffe Reservoir, Batley,
received on the 7th September, 1934.**

Bacterial Content.

Average number of organisms developing on agar plates
incubated for 2 days at 37°C. = 20 per c.c. of water.

Average number of organisms developing on agar plates
incubated for 3 days at 22°C. = 92 per c.c. of water.

Presumptive B. coli.

No colonies per 100 c.c. of water.

The above examination shows no evidence of pollution.

(Signed) P. L. SUTHERLAND.

14th September, 1934.

**PUBLIC HEALTH LABORATORY, COUNTY HALL,
WAKEFIELD.**

REPORT ON THE BACTERIOLOGICAL EXAMINATION OF—

**Water collected from the Meter pit near Robin Hood Inn,
Brighouse, received on the 7th September, 1934.**

Bacterial Content.

Average number of organisms developing on agar plates
incubated for 2 days at 37°C = 116 per c.c. of water

Average number of organisms developing on agar plates
incubated for 3 days at 22°C = 520 per c.c. of water.

Presumptive *B. coli*.

3 per 100 c.c. of water.

The above examination shows no evidence of pollution.

(Signed) P. L. SUTHERLAND.
14th September, 1934.

**PUBLIC HEALTH LABORATORY, COUNTY HALL,
WAKEFIELD.**

REPORT ON THE BACTERIOLOGICAL EXAMINATION OF—

**Water collected from the trunk main at a tap in the meter pit
near the Robin Hood Inn, Brighouse, received on the
7th December, 1934.**

Bacterial Content.

Average number of organisms developing on agar plates
incubated for 2 days at 37°C = 56 per c.c. of water.

Average number of organisms developing on agar plates
incubated for 3 days at 22°C . = 224 per c.c. of water.

Presumptive *B. coli*.

8 per 100 c.c. of water.

The above examination shows no evidence of pollution.

(Signed) P. L. SUTHERLAND.
18th December, 1934.

**PUBLIC HEALTH LABORATORY, COUNTY HALL,
WAKEFIELD.**

REPORT OF THE BACTERIOLOGICAL EXAMINATION OF—

**Water collected from Staincliffe Reservoir, Batley, received
on the 7th December, 1934.**

Bacterial Content.

Average number of organisms developing on agar plates incubated for 2 days at 37°C = 32 per c.c. of water.

Average number of organisms developing on agar plates incubated for 3 days at 22°C . = 116 per c.c. of water.

Presumptive *B. coli*.

1 per 100 c.c. of water.

The above examination shows no evidence of pollution.

(Signed) P. L. SUTHERLAND.

18th December, 1934.

(ii) DRAINAGE AND SEWERAGE.—The Borough Surveyor (Mr. H. L. Hall) has kindly supplied the following information:—

SEWAGE DISPOSAL WORKS.—The ordinary work of cleaning Contact Beds, Sludge Lagoons and Detritus Tanks, etc., has been carried out.

The Dortmund Tanks have been repaired, and a new 5" Pump and Motor has been ordered for the deep well. Orders have also been placed for the provision of a Mechanical Grab for removing solids from the Detritus Tank, prior to the entry of the sewage to the Septic Tanks, etc.

2. RIVERS AND STREAMS.—The West Riding of Yorkshire Rivers Board is the authority which exercises supervision over the Batley beck. It is polluted by dye water, trade waste, etc. During heavy rain storms it occasionally overflows its banks, causing considerable flooding of houses and streets. The latter has engaged the attention of the Corporation for several years.

3. (i) **CLOSET ACCOMMODATION, 1934.**

Water Closets	8,220
Trough and Automatic Water Closets	201
Trough and Automatic Water Closets converted into proper water closets	8
Blocks of Trough Water Closets	24
Blocks of Trough Water Closets converted into proper water closets	3
Pail Closets	10
Pail Closets converted into proper water closets	Nil.
Privy middens	18
Privy middens converted into proper water closets	Nil.
Additional water closets provided for old property	20
Additional water closets provided for new property	190

(ii) **PUBLIC CLEANSING.**—This Section is by the Senior Sanitary Inspector (Mr. H. Hornby).

In the Annual Report for 1933 particulars were given of the arrangements whereby the house and trade refuse from three Wards of the Borough was collected by three private contractors—one to each Ward—the remaining Ward being served by direct labour. Precisely the same system was continued during 1934.

The table shewing costs for the year ended 31st March, 1934, of which a copy is appended to this Section, shows that the nett cost of Collection and Disposal of House and Trade Refuse was £4,214 for the year, as against £4,224 for the previous year. This gives a nett cost per thousand of population of approximately £87 for collection and £36 for disposal, which might be claimed to be one of the lowest amongst comparable Boroughs.

The following table gives particulars of the contracts as they stood at the end of the year:—

Contract No.	Ward	No. of houses and premises	Estimated Annual Yield, Tons	Date of commencement of Contract	Annual Amount
1	West ..	2,480	2,246	5/4/34	£600
2	Sootbill ..	1,342	1,209	11/7/34	£338
3	North ..	3,270	2,961	4/12/33	£754
Totals		7,092	6,416		

6,416 Tons out of a total annual yield of refuse for the Borough of 8,896 tons being collected by private contract, this left only 2,480 tons to be dealt with by direct labour.

Controlled tipping continued to be the primary means of refuse disposal in the Borough during the year, the Destructor Works only being used to burn by natural draught relatively small quantities of putrefactive matter unsuitable for tipping, slaughterhouse garbage, diseased meat, etc.

The controlled tips used during the year were at Roche Colliery, Howden Clough, White Lee, Dewsbury Gate Road and Grange Road.

Howden Clough tip was begun in February, 1934, and forms a very useful acquisition in that it is of sufficient capacity to serve the needs of North Ward for a number of years.

Because of nuisances in adjoining properties which arose from house-flies during a previous period of exceedingly hot weather, Roche Colliery Tip was temporarily closed during the summer season, and had not been re-opened by the end of the year, as the formation of a playing field in Dewsbury Gate Road offered alternative means of disposal.

All the Corporation's refuse tips are operated on fully controlled principles, and, considered as a whole, are of sufficient capacity to accommodate the town's production of refuse for some years to come.

The weights of refuse stated in this report, though estimated, may be accepted as correct, as they are based upon a yield of 14.32 cwts. per thousand of population per day, a figure which was reached by the weighing of over 90 per cent. of all loads of refuse collected in Batley during the years 1930 and 1931.

The number of occupied houses in the Borough is 10,249, and the number of houses and premises from which refuse was collected not less than 10,500.

The staff and forms of transport engaged in collection and disposal respectively at the end of the year were as follows:—

Collection :—

(a) By Private Contract:

Mechanical Vehicles	4 Regular.	1 Part time.
Men (including drivers)	9 Regular.	3 Part time.

(b) By Direct Labour:

Mechanical vehicles	1 Regular.	.....
Horses and Carts	1 Regular.	1 Part time.
Men (including drivers and one working foreman) ...	5 Regular.	2 Part time.

Disposal :—

By Direct Labour :

Tipmen (including one part-

time foreman) 6 Regular. 2 Part time.

The following is a statement of the manner in which the refuse was disposed of during 1934 :—

(a) Incineration.	Tons.
Burned at the Destructor Works	300
(b) Controlled Tipping :	
Tipped at Howden Clough Tip	2,717
Tipped at Roche Colliery Tip	2,305
Tipped at Grange Road Tip	1,209
Tipped at Dewsbury Gate Road Tip	768
Tipped at White Lee Tip	1,537
(c) Tipped at farms for manurial purposes	60
	<hr/>
Total	8,896

TABLE B.
AUTHORITY.—BOROUGH OF BATLEY.
CLEANSING SERVICE.

House and Trade Refuse.

Table showing Costs for the Year ended 31st March, 1934.

Item (1)	Particulars. (2)	I. Collection, with depreciation or loan charges included or excluded		II. Disposal, with depreciation or loan charges included or excluded		Total, with depreciation or loan charges included or excluded.	
		Included. (3)	Excluded. (4)	Included (5)	Excluded (6)	Included (7)	Excluded (8)
	Revenue Account.						
A	Gross Expenditure ...	2,976	2,976	1,322	1,285	4,298	4,261
B	Gross Income	3	3	81	81	84	84
C	Net cost	2,973	2,973	1,241	1,204	4,214	4,177
	Unit Costs.						
D	Gross Expenditure per ton	6/8½	6/8½	2/11¾	2/11	9/8	9/7½
E	Gross Income per ton	—	—	2½	2½	2½	2½
F	Net cost per ton	6/8½	6/8½	2/9½	2/8¾	9/5¾	9/5
G	Net cost per 1,000 population	£87.6.9½	£87.6.9½	£36.9.2	£35.7.5	£123.15.11½	£122.14.
H	Net cost per 1,000 houses or premises from which refuse is collected	£294.7.1½	£294.7.1½	£122.17.7½	£119.4.1½	£417.4.9	£413.11.
	Rate Poundage.						
J	Net cost, equivalent rate in the £	d. 5.52	d. 5.52	d. 2.31	d. 2.23	d. 7.83	d. 7.75
K	Percentage of J to total rates in the £	3.07%	3.07%	1.28%	1.23%	4.35%	4.30%

1. Total refuse collected (in tons)	8,896 tons
2. Population: Midsummer, 1933	34,040 tons
3. Area (Statute acres)	3,227 acres
4. Weight—(in cwt.) per 1,000 population per day (365 days to year)	14.32 cwts.
5. Number of houses and premises	10,100
6. Rateable Value	£147,048
7. Product of a penny rate	£538
8. Total rates in the £	15/-
9. Method of Collection—	
	No. of Vehicles.
Horse vehicles	1
Mechanical vehicles	5
Container system (combination of mechanical and horse vehicles)	Nil.
	Percentage of refuse collected.
	9%
	91%

10. Method of Disposal—

Crude Tipping	Nil.
Controlled tipping (ie., on lines of Ministry's pre-cautions for tipping)	97%
Incineration	3%
Separation and Incineration	Nil.
Pulverisation	Nil.
Barging to sea	Nil.
Other methods (specify)	Nil.
11. Average length of haul to point of disposal	1 $\frac{1}{4}$ miles.
12. Number of employees, other than clerical:—	
	Collection. Disposal.
Foreman	1 (Working) 1 (working).
Others	13 5

(iii) SANITARY INSPECTION OF THE AREA.

WORK OF SANITARY INSPECTORS UNDER ARTICLE 19
OF THE SANITARY OFFICERS' ORDER, 1926.

DESCRIPTION OF WORK CARRIED OUT: YEAR 1934.

Total number of inspections and re-inspections made 9,679

Details.	Primary.		Re-inspections.
	Day.	Evening.	
Housing (Consolidated) Regs.	285	1	1593
Families from Clearance Area de- verminised	30	—	4
Re sanitary defects	1051	2	2482
Infectious Diseases	303	28	43
Verminous and dirty houses	151	—	66
Overcrowding	86	—	73
Re water supply	48	—	25
Common Lodging Houses	4	—	—
Factories	9	—	10
Workshops	99	—	16
Workplaces	8	—	6
Bakehouses	42	—	10
Drains inspected	171	1	26
Drains tested	93	—	1
Smoke Observations	133	—	—
Factories (Smoke Nuisance)	16	—	—
Offensive Trades	6	—	5
Stables	15	—	24
Swine, fowls and other animals	17	—	4
Schools	2	—	—
Tips and plots of waste ground	114	2	—
Sewers, etc.	38	—	3
Rat infested premises	46	—	14
Miscellaneous Visits	803	82	—
Slaughterhouses	875	55	—
Meat shops	243	18	—
Provision and other food shops	20	—	—
Fried Fish and Chip Shops	82	—	—
Ice Cream Premises	24	—	—
Dairies and Milk Shops	47	2	—
Cowsheds	105	7	—
Markets	41	6	—
Samples of Food and Drugs, etc.	67	—	—
Totals	5074	204	4401

Informal Notices served	751
Informal Notices complied with	796*
Statutory Notices served	268
Statutory Notices complied with	260
Number of complaints received	196

* NOTE.—The excess of Informal Notices complied with over Informal Notices served is due to a number served in 1933 being complied with in 1934.

(iv) SMOKE ABATEMENT.

By Mr. H. Hornby, Senior Sanitary Inspector.

The general position in relation to smoke abatement was stated at length in the Annual Reports for 1928 to 1931.

The number of observations taken was 133 as against 251 for the previous year. Engineers and firemen were interviewed on 14 occasions and 13 notices were forwarded to offending firms.

Inasmuch as smoke respects no boundaries, the problem of smoke abatement continues to be a national rather than a local one. Hence, to supplement their local efforts, the Town Council, as one of the constituent authorities, has been represented on the West Riding of Yorkshire Regional Smoke Abatement Committee, which renders much valuable service, chiefly of an investigatory and educational character. It is perhaps unnecessary to observe that this support should continue to be given, if only because the Committee pools the accumulated knowledge and experience of those big authorities which can afford to specialise upon the subject, and puts the benefits thus obtained at the service of the smaller towns to which the exercise of specialisation is impracticable.

As regards factory smoke, progress is evident in Batley as elsewhere, and even if this claim be summarily dismissed by ascribing the apparent improvement entirely to bad trade, with a consequent disuse of many industrial furnaces, the fact remains that these highly competitive times have imposed upon engineers and firemen the necessity of conserving fuel, i.e., obtaining a maximum of heat from a minimum of fuel, and these are the rough principles of efficient combustion and smoke abatement. Domestic smoke, which is the largest contributory factor towards smoke pollution of the atmosphere of crowded communities, still lags behind in the progress which science offers, the cause being almost wholly economic. For instance, it might be truly claimed that, technically, gas and electricity can in a much cleaner and less laborious manner do all the domestic heating and cooking of which the open coal fire is capable—but **only at an increased cost to the consumer**, and this is a consideration of prime importance. The community still awaits a solid smokeless fuel which will not only burn easily and satisfactory in an existing coal-burning fireplace, but can successfully compete with coal in the retail market. Although success on these lines has not yet been achieved, definite

progress is being made, and smokeless fuels in increasing quantities, and at prices which are becoming cheaper, are being produced.

In the meantime, there is much room for improvement in the elimination of domestic smoke by the more intelligent use of the fuels already available. Some of the cheaper kinds of coal retailed for domestic consumption in Batley are so highly bituminous that—even disregarding the question of atmospheric pollution—the loss of heat through swift burning, and excessive smoke, cancels any apparent saving in first cost. A coal of better quality would burn longer and so much more evenly and cleanly that, on the basis of heat usefully applied as compared with first cost, there would be an actual saving in money, let alone labour and dirt. Again, as every pound of coal displaced by coke burnt in the domestic fireplace would tend to lessen smoke pollution, there appears to be no reason why a mixture of coal and coke should not be preferred to the all-coal fire. As one who has tried it in an ordinary Yorkshire range fitted with back-boiler, I am convinced that such a fuel is cheaper, cleaner, and far more efficient, thermally, than unmixed coal.

The reason why more ordinary gasworks' coke is not used domestically in Batley is apparently due to the lack of facilities whereby the small householder may buy it "at the door" in precisely the same manner as he obtains coal; and why it should be impossible to purchase, say, a bag of coke at the same time as when buying coal in small quantities from a retailer is a matter equally surprising as difficult to explain.

In some towns—Halifax, for instance—graded coke is sold in small bags from numerous retail shops distributed about the district, and by this means the advantages of cheap smokeless fuel always conveniently available to the small householder, are used to advance the cause of smoke abatement. This is a simple example worthy of adoption in Batley, and one which would save money to the householder, benefit the local gasworks, and promote a clean atmosphere.

As to the importance of educating the public in this particular subject, reference need only be made to the hundreds of tons of smokeless fuel in the form of cinders which are collected annually from the domestic dustbins in Batley and tipped away at an extra cost to the ratepayers of 9s. 6d. per ton for collection and dis-

posal. Here is another instance which clearly demonstrates that, not only does smoke pollution actually cost money—for cinders wasted are generally replaced by smoke-producing bituminous coal—but that **smoke abatement** could be promoted by a simple form of household thrift which would also reflect its good influences by a saving upon the rates.

The two following resolutions submitted by the National Smoke Abatement Society, have received the support of the Town Council:—

Resolution on Grit Emission.

“Resolved that this Conference of the National Smoke Abatement Society recommends that the Government set up a Committee to investigate and report upon measures to be employed to abate nuisances arising from the use of pulverised fuel, and that special consideration be given to the abatement of nuisances arising in connection with generating stations or other statutory undertaking ”

“That all Local Authorities be circulated asking them to pass a resolution on similar lines and that such resolution be sent to the Minister of Health and their respective Members of Parliament.”

Resolution on Housing.

“Resolved that this Conference views with grave concern the slow progress made towards the solution of the domestic smoke problem, and urges the Government, in any new housing legislation, to insist, as a condition of subsidy, that the heating arrangements in all houses to be erected under such legislation, shall be of such design as will obviate atmospheric pollution.”

SMOKE OBSERVATIONS, 1934.

			Av. mins. of dense black smoke calculated upon obser-	Av. mins. of dense black smoke calculated upon obser-
	Number of Observations.	Total mins. Observations.	vations taken.	vations taken.
Chimney.				
Albion Oil Works	3	90	Nil.	.17
Alexandra Mill	5	150	Nil.	1.50
Anchor Mill	3	90	Nil.	.17
Batley Corporation—				
Electricity Works	6	134	2.33	Nil.
Public Baths	1	30	Nil.	Nil.
Batley Co-op. Slaughter House ...	3	90	Nil.	Nil.
Bankfoot Foundry Co., Ltd. ...	3	90	Nil.	Nil.
Brights Mill	5	132	Nil.	Nil.
Blakeridge Mill	6	180	Nil.	.08
Bottoms Mill—Low Chimney ...	4	120	Nil.	Nil.
Tall Chimney	3	90	.33	.33
Branch Road Mill	5	150	Nil.	.45
Brookroyd Mill	5	150	1.40	Nil.
Carr Top Mill	1	30	Nil.	.50
Chapel Fold Mill	3	90	3.17	Nil.
Cheapside Mill	1	30	Nil.	1.00
Clerk Green Mill	2	60	Nil.	2.00
Dale Street Mill	4	120	1.12	1.37
Dewsbury and District Laundry	3	90	Nil.	.08
Dock Ing Mill	4	94	1.25	.12
Foxson's Mill, Staincliffe	3	90	Nil.	Nil.
Healey Lane Mill (S. Sykes) ...	2	60	1.12	2.62
Hick Well Mill	1	30	Nil.	Nil.
Highfield Mill	2	60	Nil.	Nil.
Lady Ann Mill	1	30	Nil.	Nil.
Little Orme Mill	4	120	2.81	.69
Livingstone Mill	3	66	.33	2.00
New Ing Mill	2	60	.38	1.50
Old Mill	4	120	Nil.	Nil.
Park Lane Mill	4	120	Nil.	.50
Printworks	5	150	6.20	2.50
Providence Mill, Smithies Moor				
Lane	3	90	Nil.	.83
Queen Street Mill	2	60	Nil.	Nil.
Reed Works—Talbot Street ...	1	30	Nil.	Nil.
Savile Mill—Brick Chimney ...	5	150	1.15	2.00
Spafield Mill, Batley Carr ...	1	30	Nil.	Nil.
Spring Mill, Staincliffe	3	90	.66	.33
Staincliffe Low Mill	1	30	Nil.	Nil.
Textile Machinery Works	3	90	Nil.	Nil.
Victoria Mill, Batley Carr ...	1	30	Nil.	Nil.
Victoria Mill, Carlinghow ...	5	150	.30	.15
Victoria Oil Works	1	30	Nil.	Nil.
Warwick Road Brickworks ...	1	30	Nil.	Nil.
Wensleydale Mill	3	90	Nil.	Nil.
Wheatcroft Mill	2	60	1.75	1.00

 Total 133

4. SCHOOLS.

A separate report, being the Annual Report of the School Medical Officer, is made to the Town Council through its Education Committee. Reference may be made to these reports which ceased to be part of the Annual Health Report in 1926 at the request of the Education Committee.



ANNUAL REPORT OF THE MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH FOR THE YEAR 1934 FOR THE BOROUGH OF BATLEY ON THE ADMINISTRATION OF THE FACTORY AND WORKSHOP ACT, 1901, IN CONNECTION WITH FACTORIES, WORKSHOPS AND WORKPLACES.

1.—Inspection of Factories, Workshops and Workplaces, including Inspections Made by Sanitary Inspectors or Inspectors of Nuisances.

Premises (1)	Number of		
	Inspections (2)	Written Notices. (3)	Occupiers prosecuted (4)
FACTORIES (Including Factory Laundries)	19	6	—
WORKSHOPS (Including Workshop Laundries)	167	9	—
WORKPLACES (Other than Outworkers' premises)	14	4	—
Total	200	19	—

2. DEFECTS FOUND.

in Factories, Workshops and Workplaces.

Particulars. (1)	Number of Defects.			Number of offences in respect to which prosecutions were instituted.
	Found (2)	Remedied (3)	Referred to H.M. Inspector (4)	
Nuisances under the Public Health Acts :—*				
Want of Cleanliness	7	10	—	—
Want of Ventilation	2	3	—	—
Overcrowding	—	—	—	—
Want of Drainage of Floors	—	—	—	—
Other Nuisances	15	23	—	—
Sanitary Accommodation {	insufficient ...	12	6	1
	unsuitable or defective ...	5	17	—
	not separate for sexes ...	4	2	—
Offences under the Factory and Workshop Act.				
Illegal occupation of underground Bake-house (S. 101)	—	—	—	—
Other Offences	—	—	—	—
(Excluding offences relating to outwork and offences under the Sections mentioned in the Schedule to the Ministry of Health (Factories and Workshops Transfer of Powers) Order, 1921)	—	—	—	—
Total	45	61	1	Nil

* Including those specified in Sections 2, 3, 7 and 8 of the Factory and Workshop Act, 1901, as remediable under the Public Health Acts.

NOTE.—The excess of “Defects remedied” over “Defects found” is due to notices not complied with during 1933 being carried over to 1934 and complied with during that year.

OUTWORK IN UNWHOLESOME PREMISES, SECTION 108.

Nature of Work.	Instances.	Notices served.	Prosecutions.
(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)
Nil.	Nil.	Nil.	Nil.

SECTION D.—HOUSING STATISTICS.

In order to comply with the requirements of the Ministry of Health the several heads have been read as a whole before the form was filled up, **and care has been taken to avoid duplication**; for example, a defective house remedied twice during the year has been counted once only.

1. INSPECTION OF DWELLING-HOUSES DURING THE YEAR :—

(1) (a) Total number of dwelling-houses inspected for housing defects (under Public Health or Housing Acts)	1384
(b) Number of inspections made for the purpose ...	2768
(2) (a) Number of dwelling-houses (included under sub-head (1) above, which were inspected and recorded under the Housing Consolidated Regulations, 1925	285
(b) Number of inspections made for the purpose ...	380
(3) Number of dwelling-houses found to be in a state so dangerous or injurious to health as to be unfit for human habitation	106
(4) Number of dwelling-houses (exclusive of those referred to under the preceding sub-head) found not to be in all respects reasonably fit for human habitation	908

2. REMEDY OF DEFECTS DURING THE YEAR WITHOUT SERVICE OF FORMAL NOTICES :—

Number of defective dwelling-houses rendered fit in consequence of informal action by the Local Authority or their officers	976
--	-----

3. ACTION UNDER STATUTORY POWERS DURING THE YEAR :—

A—Proceedings under Sections 17, 18 and 23 of the Housing Act, 1930 :—

(1) Number of dwelling-houses in respect of which notices were served requiring repairs	Nil.
(2) Number of dwelling-houses which were rendered fit after service of formal notices :—	
(a) By owners	3
(b) By local authority in default of owners ...	Nil.

B— Proceedings under Public Health Acts—

(1) Number of dwelling-houses in respect of which notices were served requiring defects to be remedied	3
(2) Number of dwelling-houses in which defects were remedied after service of formal notices :—	
(a) By owners	10
(b) By local authority in default of owners ...	Nil.

C—Proceedings under Sections 19 and 21 of the Housing Act, 1930—

(1) Number of dwelling-houses in respect of which Demolition Orders were made	22
(2) Number of dwelling-houses demolished in pursuance of Demolition Orders	15

D—Proceedings under Section 20 of the Housing Act, 1930—

(1) Number of separate tenements or underground rooms in respect of which Closing Orders were made	26
(2) Number of separate tenements or underground rooms in respect of which Closing Orders were determined, the tenement or room having been rendered fit	Nil.

NOTE.—The excess of notices complied with over notices served is due to a number brought forward from 1933 being complied with in 1934.

GENERAL REPORT UPON HOUSING ACTIVITIES IN THE BOROUGH.

The special efforts directed towards dealing with the most insanitary dwelling-houses in the Borough, which policy was referred to in the Annual Reports for 1932 and 1933, were continued during the year under review, so far as the inadequate staff of the Public Health Department would permit.

The procedure followed was that laid down by the Housing Act, 1930, and falls under two main headings, viz. :—

- (a) Clearance Areas under Part I of the Act.
 - and (b) Individual Unfit Houses under Secs. 19 to 21 of the Act.
- (a) **Clearance Areas.**

The Albert Square (No. 1) Clearance Area, 1933.

Following the progress made with this Area previous to 1934, and which is fully described on pages 31 and 32 of the Annual Report for 1933, it is only necessary here to report upon the final stages carried through to secure vacation, re-housing and demolition.

By the 29th May, 1934, i.e., the date before which the Confirmation Order made by the Minister of Health required that the houses should be vacated, ten of the forty houses concerned had been voluntarily vacated, the occupants thereof finding alternative accommodation on their own initiative. As to the remaining thirty houses, all the persons dispossessed were re-housed by the Corporation at the Purlwell House Estate,

In view of the verminous condition of the houses to be vacated, special measures of disinfestation of both goods and persons were carried out in the course of the transfer.

All furniture was packed in L.M.S. "B" type containers previously made gas-tight, and fumigated with Hydrocyanic Acid Gas by the "Zyklon B" process. Bedding and clothing were subjected to steam-disinfection.

As regards the displaced families themselves, all were very helpful and took advantage of the facilities offered, whereby a hot bath was provided whilst personal clothing was being steam disinfected.

Although this procedure required much organisation, and, because of the extremely poisonous nature of the fumigant used, very great care, the arrangements worked well, and each house and family concerned were dealt with in the course of one day.

It is pleasing to record that the disinfestation measures described appear to have been effective, and inspection of the new houses after three months' occupation did not reveal any evidence of vermin.

Demolition of the houses within the Area was commenced by the respective Owners soon after vacation, and by the end of the year all the forty houses had been pulled down and the site cleared. During these operations special measures had to be taken in consequence of certain neighbours removing bug-infested firewood from the Area into their houses, which obviously constituted a very serious danger. Visits were accordingly made to all who were known to have taken such infested wood, and they were successfully persuaded to return it to the Area. Other householders in the vicinity were circularised and warned of the danger.

This experience exposes a weakness in the Housing Acts in not defining the removal into other dwelling-houses of verminous timber from a Clearance Area in course of demolition as a punishable offence. Little imagination is needed to realise how vermin might be spread widely abroad by a vendor buying bug-infested timber from verminous properties in course of demolition, breaking it up into firewood, and then retailing it from door to door.

The Borough of Batley (Ward's Hill) Clearance Area, 1934.

This Area, consisting of nine occupied dwelling-houses and six uninhabited derelict houses, all being of the worst possible type,

was officially represented by the Medical Officer of Health on the 18th October, 1933, and in accordance with their Five-years Slum Clearance Programme the Town Council on the 4th July, 1934, declared the Area to be a Clearance Area and made a Clearance Order.

Arising out of the application by the Corporation to the Minister of Health for confirmation of the Order, the Owners concerned lodged objections, and the Minister directed a local public enquiry to be held. This took place at the Town Hall, Batley, on Tuesday, the 28th September, 1934, when through their legal advisers the Owners put forward objections on various legal, technical, and equitable grounds. At the conclusion of the Enquiry the Ministry's Inspector inspected each of the houses concerned, and in due course reported his findings to the Minister of Health. Later, the Minister confirmed the Town Council's application by an Order made on the 14th November, 1934, designated The Batley (Ward's Hill) Housing Confirmation Order, 1934. The effect of this Order was that each of the buildings concerned was to be demolished, and for that purpose each house was to be vacated within twenty-eight days from the date when the Order became operative. The latter date being the 4th January, 1935, it is anticipated that by March of the same year all the houses in the Area will have been vacated, demolition be in progress, and displaced tenants who have not in the meantime found alternative accommodation for themselves be re-housed in the new houses now being erected by the Corporation at the Purlwell House Estate.

The following are the houses concerned:—

Nos. 3, 4, 5, 9, 10, 11, 12, Yard 3, Ward's Hill, Batley.

Nos. 38 and 40, Ward's Hill, Batley.

and the Uninhabited derelict houses marked "A," "B," "C," "D," "E" and "F" on map, and situate in Ward's Hill, Batley.

Miscellaneous.

During 1934 the Medical Officer of Health made official representations in respect of two further Clearance Areas, numbering forty and eight houses respectively. These were referred by the Public Health Committee to the Housing Programme Sub-Committee for consideration pursuant to the current Five-years Slum Clearance Programme of the Corporation.

The larger of the two areas is down for clearance in the Programme during the year 1937, and as regards the smaller one it is expected that the clearance operations already outlined in the Programme for the year 1936 will be extended to include it.

(b) **Individual Unfit Houses under Secs. 19 to 21 of the Act.**

The table at the end of this section gives details of 144 individual unfit houses dealt with during the year. These are exclusive of the three houses which were closed and demolished voluntarily.

Deducting the 38 houses officially represented prior to the year under review, but carried over to 1934 for further action, the number of houses officially represented during 1934 was 106, as follows:—

Underground Sleeping Places	16
Back-to-Back Houses	46
Single-back Houses	18
Through Houses	26
Total	106

Based upon a total of 144 individual unfit houses actually dealt with in a statutory manner during 1934, the following table summarises the action taken, and the results thereof:—

Nature of Order or Undertaking.	Made or accepted. *	Complied with during 1934.	Not complied with by end of Year. Further action carried over to 1935.
Demolition Orders	26	15	11
Closing Orders	29	22	7
Undertakings not to use for human habitation	16	11	5
Undertakings to render fit for human habitation	31	22	9
Undertakings (informal) to demolish, immediately following official representation	5	5	...
Houses officially represented but final action not determined by the end of 1934	37	...	37
Totals	144	75	69

* Includes certain instances where Demolition Orders, Closing Orders, or Undertakings, had been made or given during 1933, but not complied with by the end of that year.

The above table shews that of the 144 individual unfit houses dealt with in 1934, after official representation by the Medical Officer of Health pursuant to Secs. 19 to 21 of the Housing Act, 1930, 75 had been demolished, or closed, or rendered fit by the end of the year, whilst 69 were carried over to 1935 for further action.

When it is remembered that each house dealt with under this particular procedure involves much administrative work in connection with survey and records, statements of sanitary defects, preparation of specifications of works, drawing up and service of statutory documents, visits by Sub-Committees, and conferences between the owners and the local authority, before the final course of action is determined, the above record indicates a satisfactory achievement, having regard to the smallness of the staffs engaged and the various housing difficulties peculiar to the Borough.

The particulars given in the table at the end of this section call for little comment beyond what is stated therein.

The reason why the Demolition Order on breach of Undertaking in respect of Ref. No. 8—38 Mann's Buildings, was not enforced was because the Undertaking to render fit was complied with during the period between the Order being issued and becoming operative, in which circumstances the Public Health Committee were of opinion it would be undesirable to enforce the Order, notwithstanding any legal powers they might possess.

Three very satisfactory conversion and reconditioning schemes are indicated under Ref. No. 24—1 to 3, Court 1, Chapel Street. Ref. No. 28—65 to 71, Back Albert Street, and Ref. No. 46—52 to 58, King Street, and 1 to 3, King Street.

Further schemes which are expected to yield particularly good results when carried out during 1935 are Ref. No. 60—17 to 27, Fleming Street, and Ref. No. 62—1 to 23, Whitaker Square, and 12 to 22, Field Lane.

DEMOLITION AND CLOSING ORDERS: HOUSING ACTS, 1909 to 1930.

Particulars were given on pages 37, 43, 44, 46a, 58, 38, 37a, and 34a, of the Annual Reports for 1926, 1927, 1928, 1929, 1930, 1931, 1932, and 1933. To these the following must be added to show the position on the 31st December, 1934:—

Ref. No.	Situation.	Date of Official Representation.	Date of Closing Order.	Date of Demolition Order.	Remarks.
1	3. Back Spa Street 58, Mower's Place, Ward's Hill ... 60, Mower's Place, Ward's Hill ... 62-64, Mower's Pl., Ward's Hill ...	16. 9.31 16. 9.31 16. 9.31 16. 9.31	4. 4.34 4. 4.34 4. 4.34 4. 4.34	— — — —	Underground Sleeping Places. Vacated during 1934.
2	26, Hanover St...	20. 1.32	—	—	Through House. Demolished during 1934.
3	54, Cobden Street	15. 6.32	3. 1.34	—	Underground Sleeping Place. Vacated during 1934.
4	2, Ward's Hill ...	21. 9.32	—	—	Through House. Demolished during 1934.
5	5, Court 2, Dale St., Batley Carr	17. 2.32	25.10.33	—	Underground Sleeping Place. Vacated during 1934.
6	9, Hanover Place 11, Hanover Place 13, Hanover Place	20. 4.32 20. 4.32 20. 4.32	25.10.33 25.10.33 25.10.33	— — —	Underground Sleeping Places. Vacated during 1934.
7	15, Back Jacob St.	18. 5.32	1. 2.33	—	Underground Sleeping Place. Vacated during 1934.
8	38, Mann's Buildings, White Lee	15. 3.33	—	7. 2.34 (On breach of undertaking).	Single-back House. Made fit during 1934, and Order not enforced.
9	41, Cobden Street	20. 9.33	—	—	Back-to-Back House. Closed as separate tenement, and on undertaking added during 1934, to No. 43, Cobden St., thus converting two back-to-back houses into one through house.
10	35, Chapel Fold...	20. 9.33	—	—	Through House. Made fit on undertaking during 1934.

Ref.No.	Situation.	Date of Official Representation.	Date of Order Closing	Date of Demolition Order.	Remarks.
11	74, Occupation Lane, Staincliffe	20. 9.33	—	6.12.33	Single-back House. Demolished during 1934.
12	2, Yard 9, Cross Bank Road ...	17. 2.32	—	1. 8.34	Back-to-Back Houses. Demolished during 1934.
	3, Yard 9, Cross Bank Road ...	17. 2.32	—	1. 8.34	
	6, Coal Pit Lane	17. 2.32	—	1. 8.34	
	8, Coal Pit Lane	17. 2.32	—	1. 8.34	
13	1, Leeds Road, Brownhill ...	20. 9.33	—	6.12.33	Two Back - to - Back Houses, One Single-back House, and One through House. Demolished during 1934.
	2, Leeds Road, Brownhill ...	20. 9.33	—	6.12.33	
	3, Leeds Road, Brownhill ...	20. 9.33	—	6.12.33	
	5, Leeds Road, Brownhill ...	20. 9.33	—	6.12.33	
	10, Holgate's Yard	18.10.33	—	3. 1.34	
14	9, Holgate's Yard	20. 9.33	—	3. 1.34	Back-to-Back Houses. Demolished during 1934.
15	11, Nursery Wood Road ...	22.11.33	—	—	Three Through Houses, Two Back -to - Back Houses. Made fit on undertaking during 1934.
	13, Nursery Wood Road ...	22.11.33	—	—	
	15, Nursery Wood Road ...	22.11.33	—	—	
	17, Nursery Wood Road ...	22.11.33	—	—	
	19, Nursery Wood Road ...	22.11.33	—	—	
	143, Low Bottoms, Hanging Heaton	22.11.33	—	—	
16	14, Cullingworth St., Staincliffe...	22.11.33	7. 3.34	—	Single-back House. Closed on undertaking and vacated during 1934.
17	13, Tindall's Bldgs, Halifax Road ...	22.11.33	7. 3.34	—	Underground Sleeping Place. Operation of Closing Order suspended during the present occupier's (an elderly man living alone) tenancy.
18	207, Bradford Rd. (E.) ...	22.11.33	—	—	Underground Sleeping Place. Vacated during 1934.
19	9, Well Lane ... (Common Lodging House).	17. 1.34	—	1. 8.34 (On breach of undertaking).	Through House. Made fit on undertaking during 1934.
20	93, Bradford Rd. (C.) ...	17. 1.34	—	7. 3.34	Through House. Not vacated by end of year. Further action carried over to 1935.
21					Through House. Demolished during 1934.

Ref.No	Situation.	Date of Official Representation.	Date of Closing Order.	Date of Demolition Order.	Remarks.
22	133, Purlwell Lane 135, Purlwell Lane 137, Purlwell Lane	17. 1.34 17. 1.34 17. 1.34	— — —	— — —	Two Through Houses, One Single-back House. Demolished during 1934.
23	13a, Oldroyd's Yd., Batley Carr ...	21. 2.34	—	—	Back-to-Back House. Closed on Undertaking and vacated during 1934.
24	1, Court 1, Chapel Street 2, Court 1, Chapel Street 3, Court 1, Chapel Street	17.12.33 17.12.33 17.12.33	— — —	— — —	Back-to-Back Houses. Vacated and closed on undertaking as separate tenancies, and added to adjoining houses in a conversion scheme to form three through houses, during 1934.
25	44, Albion Street 46, Albion Street	21. 3.34 21. 3.34	— —	4. 7.34 4. 7.34	Back-to-Back Houses. Demolished during 1934.
26	48, Providence St. 50, Providence St. 52, Providence St.	21. 3.34 21. 3.34 21. 3.34	— — —	4. 7.34 4. 7.34 4. 7.34	Single-back Houses. Not demolished by end of year. Further action carried over to 1935.
27	75, Providence St.	21. 3.34	—	—	Through House. Made fit on Undertaking during 1934.
28	65, Bk. Albert St. 67, Bk. Albert St. 69, Bk. Albert St. 71, Bk. Albert St.	21. 3.34 21. 3.34 21. 3.34 21. 3.34	— — — —	— — — —	Back-to-Back Houses. Vacated and closed on Undertaking as separate tenancies, and added to adjoining houses in a conversion scheme to form four through houses, during 1934.
29	15, Park Road ...	21. 3.34	6. 6.34	—	Underground Sleeping Place. Vacated during 1934.
30	78, New St., Batley	21. 3.34	—	—	Through House. Vacated and closed on Undertaking during 1934.
31	Unnumbered House at rear of 87, Bradford Rd. (C.)	21. 3.34	—	—	Single-back House. Vacated and closed on Undertaking during 1934.
32	23, North King St., Batley	21. 3.34	6. 6.34	—	Underground Sleeping Place. Vacated during 1934.

Ref.No.	Situation.	Date of Official Representation.	Date of Closing Order.	Date of Demolition Order.	Remarks.
33	17, Back New St., Hanging Heaton	18. 4.34	4. 7.34	—	Underground Sleeping Places. Vacated during 1934.
	19, Bk. New St., Hanging Heaton	18. 4.34	4. 7.34	—	
	21, Bk. New St., Hanging Heaton	18. 4.34	4. 7.34	—	
34	58, Common Rd., Staincliffe	18. 4.34	—	4. 7.34	Single-back House. Demolished during 1934.
35	68, Common Rd., Staincliffe	18. 4.34	—	—	Back-to-Back House. Vacated and closed on Undertaking as a separate tenancy, and added to adjoining back-to-back house in a conversion scheme to form one through house during 1934.
36	9, Preston Street	18. 4.34	4. 7.34	—	Underground Sleeping Places. Vacated during 1934.
	5, Senior's Yard...	18. 4.34	4. 7.34	—	
37	1, Preston Street	18. 4.34	4. 7.34	—	Underground Sleeping Places. Operation of Closing Orders suspended during the present occupiers' (elderly persons living alone) tenancies
	1, Senior's Yard...	18. 4.34	4. 7.34	—	
38	11, Senior's Yard	18. 4.34	4. 7.34	—	Underground Sleeping Place. Not vacated by end of year. Tenant awaiting completion of a Corporation house in course of construction.
39	33, Bunker's Lane	16. 5.34	—	—	Single-back House. Closed on Undertaking and vacated during 1934.
40	35, Bunker's Lane	16. 5.34	—	—	Single-back House. Closed on Undertaking, but not vacated by end of year. Further action carried over to 1935.
41	8, Lady Ann Road	16. 5.34	1. 8.34	—	Underground Sleeping Place. Vacated during 1934.
42	Unnumbered house at rear of the Albion Hotel, Cross Bank Rd....	16. 5.34	3.10.34	—	Back-to-Back House. Vacated as separate tenancy during 1934. Closing order determined on house being added to adjoining house to form one house with adequate accommodation.

Ref.No.	Situation.	Date of Official Representation.	Date of Closing Order.	Date of Demolition Order.	Remarks.
43	2, King Street, Batley Carr ...	20. 6.34	—	—	Single-back Houses. Closed on Undertaking and vacated during 1934.
	2a, King Street, Batley Carr ...	20. 6.34	—	—	
44	87, King Street, Batley Carr ...	20. 6.34	3.10.34	—	Back-to-Back House. Vacated during 1934.
45	57, Victoria Street, Batley Carr ...	20. 6.34	3.10.34	—	Underground Sleeping Place. Vacated during 1934.
46	52, King Street, Batley Carr ...	18. 7.34	—	—	One Through House, and Six Back-to-Back Houses. All back-to-back houses closed on Undertaking as separate tenancies, and a conversion and reconditioning scheme carried out during 1934 to form four through houses.
	54, King Street, Batley Carr ...	18. 7.34	—	—	
	56, King Street, Batley Carr ...	18. 7.34	—	—	
	58, King Street, Batley Carr ...	18. 7.34	—	—	
	1, Ct. 2 King St., Batley Carr ...	18. 7.34	—	—	
	2, Ct. 2 King St., Batley Carr ...	18. 7.34	—	—	
	3, Ct. 2 King St., Batley Carr ...	18. 7.34	—	—	
47	47, Brownhill Rd.	19. 9.34	—	5.12.34	Five Through Houses. Three Single-back Houses. Further action carried over to 1935.
	49, Brownhill Rd.	19. 9.34	—	5.12.34	
	51, Brownhill Rd.	19. 9.34	—	5.12.34	
	53, Brownhill Rd.	19. 9.34	—	5.12.34	
	55, Brownhill Rd.	19. 9.34	—	5.12.34	
	59, Brownhill Rd.	19. 9.34	—	—	
	6, Wilby's Place, Brownhill ...	19. 9.34	—	—	
	8, Wilby's Place, Brownhill ...	19. 9.34	—	—	
48	2, Upper Batley Lane ...	19. 9.34	—	—	Single-back House. Closed on Undertaking, but not vacated by end of year. Further action carried over to 1935.
49	7, Back Richmond Street ...	19. 9.34	—	—	Back-to-Back House. Closed as a separate tenancy on undertaking to add the house to an adjoining house to form one through house. Not vacated by end of year. Further action carried over to 1935.
50	152, Soothill Lane	19. 9.34	—	—	Through House. Further action carried over to 1935.

Ref.No.	Situation.	Date of Official Representa- tion.	Date of Closing Order.	Date of Demolition Order.	Remarks.
51	31, Rouse Mill Lane	19. 9.34	—	—	Through House. Undertaking accepted to render the house fit, and works in pro- gress at the end of the year. Further action car- ried over to 1935.
52	39, Bradford Rd. (E.)	19. 9.34	—	—	Through House and Shop. Vacated and closed on undertaking during 1934.
53	15, Jack Lane, Hanging Heaton	19. 9.34	5.12.34	—	Underground Sleeping Place. Not vacated by end of year. Further action carried over to 1935.
54	23, Albert Street, Batley 25, Albert Street, Batley 27, Albert Street, Batley	17.10.34 17.10.34 17.10.34	— — —	— — —	Single-back Houses. Further action carried over to 1935.
55	47, Albion Street	17.10.34	—	—	Back-to-Back House. Vacated during 1934. Further action carried over to 1935.
56	58, Queen Street, Batley	17.10.34	—	—	Back-to-Back House. Undertaking accepted to render the house fit. Further action carried over to 1935.
57	3, Spa Hill, Batley	17.10.34	—	—	Back-to-Back House. Undertaking not to use for human habi- tation accepted. Not vacated by end of year. Further action carried over to 1935.
58	Two unoccupied houses situate in Yard 2, Dark Lane	17.10.34	—	—	Back-to-Back Houses. Undertaking accepted to convert into one house. Further action carried over to 1935.
59	13, Fleming Street 15, Fleming Street	17.10.34 17.10.34	— —	5.12.34 5.12.34	Back-to-Back Houses. Not vacated by end of year. Further action carried over to 1935.

Ref.No.	Situation.	Date of Official Representation.	Date of Closing Order.	Date of Demolition Order.	Remarks.
60	17, Fleming Street	17.10.34	—	—	Four Back-to-Back Houses, One Single-back House, One Underground Sleeping Place. Undertaking accepted to convert these six houses and No. 26, Fleming Street (the latter house having been the subject of a Closing Order made on the 3rd May, 1933) into five through houses in all respects reasonably fit for human habitation. Further action carried over to 1935.
	19, Fleming Street	17.10.34	—	—	
	21, Fleming Street	17.10.34	—	—	
	23, Fleming Street	17.10.34	—	—	
	25, Fleming Street	17.10.34	—	—	
	27, Fleming Street	17.10.34	—	—	
61	69, High Street, Hanging Heaton	17.10.34	5.12.34	—	Underground Sleeping Places. Not vacated by end of year. Further action carried over to 1935.
	71, High Street, Hanging Heaton	17.10.34	5.12.34	—	
62	1, Whitaker Sq. ...	17.10.34	—	—	Eighteen Back-to-Back Houses. At the end of the year the matter of final action to be taken was lying adjourned, to give opportunity for an architect engaged by the Owners to prepare and submit plans to the Public Health Interviewing Sub-Committee, for a scheme to convert into through houses, and otherwise render the properties fit. Further action carried over to 1935.
	3, Whitaker Sq. ...	17.10.34	—	—	
	5, Whitaker Sq. ...	17.10.34	—	—	
	7, Whitaker Sq. ...	17.10.34	—	—	
	9, Whitaker Sq. ...	17.10.34	—	—	
	11, Whitaker Sq. ...	17.10.34	—	—	
	13, Whitaker Sq. ...	17.10.34	—	—	
	15, Whitaker Sq. ...	17.10.34	—	—	
	17, Whitaker Sq. ...	17.10.34	—	—	
	19, Whitaker Sq. ...	17.10.34	—	—	
	21, Whitaker Sq. ...	17.10.34	—	—	
	23, Whitaker Sq. ...	17.10.34	—	—	
	12, Field Lane ...	17.10.34	—	—	
	14, Field Lane ...	17.10.34	—	—	
	16, Field Lane ...	17.10.34	—	—	
	18, Field Lane ...	17.10.34	—	—	
	20, Field Lane ...	17.10.34	—	—	
	22, Field Lane ...	17.10.34	—	—	
63	11, Field Lane ...	17.10.34	—	—	Ten Through Houses (By Windows only). At the end of the year the matter of final action to be taken was lying adjourned, to give opportunity for an architect engaged by the Owners to prepare and submit plans to the Public Health Interviewing Sub-Committee, for a scheme to demolish certain of the houses, and render the remaining houses fit. Further action carried over to 1935.
	13a, Field Lane ...	17.10.34	—	—	
	13, Field Lane ...	17.10.34	—	—	
	15, Field Lane ...	17.10.34	—	—	
	17, Field Lane ...	17.10.34	—	—	
	19, Field Lane ...	17.10.34	—	—	
	21, Field Lane ...	17.10.34	—	—	
	23, Field Lane ...	17.10.34	—	—	
	25, Field Lane ...	17.10.34	—	—	
	27, Field Lane ...	17.10.34	—	—	
64	19, Albert Street, Batley ...	18.12.34	—	—	Through House (By windows only). Further action carried over to 1935.

Houses voluntarily closed and demolished:—

- 2, Old Mill Lane, Batley.
- 8, Track Road.
- 10, Track Road.

Reconditioning of Unfit Dwelling-Houses.

The difficulties met with in the practical application in the Borough of Section 17—the “Repairs Section”—of the Housing Act, 1930, were explained on page 35 of the Annual Report for 1933, and the remarks made therein apply with equal force to-day.

The method of securing repairs to dwelling-houses by informal action was again pursued during the year under review, 751 informal notices being issued for this purpose. As a result, much valuable improvement was secured.

It may be observed that whereas certain landlords exhibit a commendable willingness to co-operate with the Department and effect repairs and improvements when and as required, others, unfortunately, are very dilatory, and repeated communications have to be forwarded to them before even a minimum of works can be secured. To these it should be obvious that, as landlords, their negligence and indifference only hastens the time when, because of extreme dilapidation, the local authority will have no option but to schedule their properties for clearance as slums. In such an event it would be difficult for an owner to sustain an objection against the action of the local authority, if called upon to explain why communications from the Public Health Department requesting attention to disrepair and sanitary defects in the dwelling-houses belonging to him, had been repeatedly ignored.

Overcrowding.

Although the new working-class houses erected in the Borough during the past few years by the Corporation and private enterprise have collectively relieved overcrowding in some small measure, it still remains a fact that in Batley, as elsewhere, overcrowding exists to such a high degree as to form one of the Department's most serious problems. As evidence of this, during 1934 seventy-nine informal notices were served upon occupiers of houses wherein overcrowding was so bad as to contravene the low standard laid down by the Common Lodging House Byelaws. Twenty of these notices were complied with, as also were nineteen others brought forward from the previous year, making in all a total of thirty-nine nuisances arising from overcrowding abated during the year.

The obvious conclusion is, that so many instances of overcrowding having come to the notice of the Department merely as a result of routine visits by Health Visitors and Sanitary Inspectors, then, considering that in the aggregate only a portion of the total houses in the town were visited, it appears evident that a

thorough investigation over the whole of the houses in the town would reveal overcrowding to a considerable degree. Unfortunately there is in Batley an embarrassing preponderance of small back-to-back and single-back houses containing only one living room and one bedroom, and these become overcrowded though only occupied by small families.

The only instance in which legal proceedings were taken during the year was in respect of No. 21, Fleming Street, being a back-to-back house consisting of a living room and one bedroom occupied by ten persons. The Magistrates adjourned the case and the nuisance had not been abated by the end of the year. As the house is included in a number which were ultimately officially represented by the Medical Officer of Health as unfit houses pursuant to Section 19 of the Housing Act, 1930, it is hoped that an abatement of this very serious case of overcrowding will be secured in due course. As to future policy, much is expected of the Housing Bill now before Parliament. The proposals made therein whereby definite standards of overcrowding are laid down, and generally defining offences, will be of the greatest assistance, provided that new houses are constructed in sufficient numbers to offer alternative accommodation when and as required. Should the latter qualification not be satisfied, the overcrowding provisions of the Bill will not only be a dead letter, but it will apparently be impracticable for the local authority any longer to appeal to Magistrates, as hitherto, for an order against the offender to abate this particular class of nuisance, no matter how serious the degree of overcrowding may be.

Thus it requires emphasising that in the absence of the necessary additional houses in adequate numbers, Acts of Parliament will be quite ineffectual to alleviate overcrowding, which, as stated, is still serious in the Borough, many instances being of a grave and long-standing nature.

The Borough Surveyor (Mr. H. L. Hall) kindly supplies the following information:—

“The number of Subsidy Houses erected by the Corporation under the 1930 Act during the year ending 31st December, 1934, is 30 Houses and 10 Bungalows.

“Purlwell House (which forms part of the estate purchased at Purlwell for Housing Purposes) has been turned into 2 small houses by the Corporation under the 1925 Act. Subsidy is not being obtained for these.

Subsidy Houses erected by Private enterprise	Nil.
Non-Subsidy Houses erected by Private enterprise	141

“ The number of houses erected by the Corporation since building operations commenced is :—

Housing Act, 1919	178
Housing Act, 1923	64
Housing Act, 1924	180
Housing Act, 1925	2
Housing Act, 1930	30
Housing Act, 1930	10 Bungalows.
	<hr/>
	464
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“ In connection with the Purlwell Housing Estate on which houses are now being erected, 40 houses are in course of erection under the provisions of the 1930 Act, and land is still available for a further 36 houses.”

The survey of housing in Batley, which is a statutory duty under the Housing Act, 1930, has not been made, because it is impossible for the present staff to perform the work and, at the same time, carry out the other duties imposed upon them by law. This has been reported to the Public Health Committee at different times in the past and is mentioned at length on page 39 of the Annual Return for 1933 of the Medical Officer of Health.

Following a letter on this subject from the Ministry of Health a sub-committee was appointed to examine the situation. As a result the following resolution was passed by this sub-committee and reported to the Public Health Committee at its meeting on March 21st, 1934 :—

“ That in the opinion of this sub-committee the present inspectorial staff is inadequate satisfactorily to discharge the statutory duties, and the Public Health Committee be recommended seriously to consider the advisability of appointing additional Sanitary Inspector or Inspectors.”

After discussion the Public Health Committee

Resolved :—“ That the further consideration of such recommendation be adjourned until after the pending review of the slum clearance programme by the Housing Programme Sub-Committee.”

So far as the Medical Officer of Health is aware this matter had not been discussed again by the close of the year. With the passing of the Shops Act, which throws extensive duties upon Sanitary Inspectors, and the advent of the Housing Bill, 1935, both of which have been brought to the notice of the Committee, the position has been further complicated. No survey having been made, for the reasons stated, it is impossible to give exact figures respecting the housing of Batley residents, but the following Table gives some idea of the deplorable conditions which exist. The census of 1931 shewed that 14 per cent. of the population were living more than two persons per room. The table given under the section (e) Hospitals shews the housing circumstances of patients in the Maternity Home. It gives a picture which calls for attention. The most serious problem in the Public Health of Batley is the urgent need for sweeping away the overcrowded, disease breeding, slum type of house of which there are many hundreds. Great concern is expressed when epidemics of infectious disease cause death and crippling, as, for example, diphtheria. Alarm is also shewn at the heavy cost of hospital isolation, on the average not less than £15 per case. The remedy is in the hands of the Corporation. A scheme to build not less than one thousand houses would be a modest beginning.

This Annual Report was completed at the end of February with the exception of certain figures which could not be inserted until received from the Registrar-General. They arrived on May 3rd, 1935. It is, therefore, possible to shew the position at the Town Council meeting on Wednesday, May 1st, 1935.

At the Public Health Committee at its meeting on 20th February, 1935, it was resolved:—

“That the Mayor, Chairman, Vice-Chairman, Alderman Bruce and Councillor Oldroyd be instructed to consider and report upon the question of the additional staff (Inspectorial and Clerical) required in the Public Health Department, as now indicated to the Committee by the Medical Officer of Health and the Senior Sanitary Inspector.”

At the Public Health Committee at its meeting on the 6th March, 1935, it was resolved:—

“That Councillors Ainsworth, Hill, Ineson and Thornton be appointed additional members of the Sub-Committee to consider the matters mentioned therein.”

At the Public Health Committee at its meeting on the 17th April, 1935, it was reported:—

“ That having considered the question of the additional staff (Inspectorial and Clerical) required in the Department they recommended that an additional District Sanitary Inspector be appointed at a salary of £250 per annum rising by two annual increments of £12 10s. to £275 per annum and that a Junior Clerk be appointed at a commencing salary of £39 per annum.

(I) Resolved:—That such recommendation be adopted and that subject to the approval of the Finance Committee these appointments be made.

(II) That the Sub-Committee be empowered to make the above-mentioned appointments.”

At the meeting of the Town Council on May 1st it was resolved:—

“ That further consideration of this matter be adjourned until July.”

TABLE SHEWING THE HOUSING ACCOMMODATION OF SCHOLARS EXAMINED IN THE SCHOOLS DURING THE YEARS 1930-34 (inclusive).

No. of Rooms	Number of Persons											
	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12 or over
1		1	6	7	2							
2		28	256	471	441	232	197	67	40	14	7	7
3		15	304	507	445	299	241	99	61	38	12	6
4		5	146	248	204	169	99	96	32	17	9	7
5 or over		2	118	228	209	214	125	103	90	43	19	18

SECTION E.—INSPECTION AND SUPERVISION OF FOOD.

The Senior Sanitary Inspector (Mr. H. Hornby) has compiled a portion of this and the preceding section:—

(a) MILK SUPPLY.—There are seventeen producers of milk within the Borough and one producer of graded milk (Pasteurised).

The following licenses were granted to sell Graded Milk in the Borough during the year:—

Certified Milk, 5; Grade A (T.T.) Milk, 1; Pasteurised Milk, 5.

From time to time difficulties have arisen through retailers of graded milks failing to renew their licences, notwithstanding that it is clearly stated on every licence that the same only operates until the 31st December of the year when granted. Failure to renew such licences renders the retailer liable to a penalty of £5 and a further fine of 40s. per day in the case of a continuing offence. The same difficulty occurred this year, and it would seem a prosecution will be necessary if there is no alteration.

The names and addresses of persons licensed to sell graded milks in Batley during 1934 are as follow:—

CERTIFIED MILK—

Wood, Charles, Hillcrest Farm, Morley.
 Gray, Bertha, Holly Croft Farm, Upper Batley.
 Haley, George, 15a, Regent Street, Heckmondwike.
 Almond, J. W. and L., 5, Lobley Street, Heckmondwike.
 Brooke, William, 72, Town Street, Batley Carr.

GRADE A (TUBERCULIN TESTED) MILK—

Carlton, David, 52, Cliffe Street, Dewsbury.

GRADE A MILK—

Nil.

PASTEURISED.

Crowther, Bert, Crosshills Dairy Farm, Hartshead.
 Dewsbury Pioneers' Industrial Society, Dewsbury.
 Batley Co-operative Society, Batley.
 Birstall Industrial Co-operative Society, Birstall.
 Clay, W. E. W. and Son, Manorcroft Dairy, Dewsbury.

Because of the inadequate staff of inspectors, and extensions of the duties and responsibilities of the Department by recent legislation and orders of the Ministry of Health—particularly with regard to housing—it was impossible during the year to take samples of milk for bacteriological examination. Had this been done it is suspected that not a little milk of questionable cleanliness would have been detected amongst retailers who sell direct from the churn.

If and when the staff is adequate, routine bacteriological examinations of milk is a duty now in suspension in Batley which ought to be carried out with vigour.

REPORTS OF VETERINARY INSPECTORS.

11th June, 1934.

I have again the pleasure of submitting a report of my inspection of the milk cows in the Borough of Batley.

We have in the Borough a useful class of cows, the general health and condition satisfactory.

From a tubercular point of view the cows' udders are satisfactory. One has met with dead quarters.

Cave.—A white cow with indurated quarter.

Broadfield.—An enlarged quarter due to chill.

Child.—Cow with an indurated quarter.

Fox.—A cow not in equal bloom to the others.

Marriott.—A black cow rather low in flesh but I have never seen this owner's cows look so well.

These cows do not exhibit definite clinical signs of Tuberculosis. It is my intention to again, in a few weeks' time, inspect these cows.

During January and February I placed under the Tuberculosis Order cows from Brown, John; Burrows, and Fox, G. R. C.

Brown's cow after a Bacteriological examination of expectorate Post-mortem proved negative.

Burrows' diagnosed clinically—Post-mortem proving positive but not advanced Tuberculosis.

Fox's diagnosed clinically—Post-mortem proving a case of advanced Tuberculosis.

Many owners have had retained Placentas removed, in my opinion advisable.

(Signed) GEO. WHITEHEAD, M.R.C.V.S.,
Veterinary Surgeon.

22nd December, 1934.

I have again the pleasure of submitting a report of my inspection this month of the milk cows in the Borough of Batley.

We have a good class of milk cows in the Borough. With the exception of a few cows rather low in flesh, but apparently healthy, the general condition of the cows is satisfactory.

I noted three cases of mastitis (under treatment), not tubercular. Although one noticed a few cases of non-secreting quarters (due to injury or a mastitis) I am, from a tubercular point of view, satisfied with the cows' udders.

Milk from one cow (Batley Hall) tested and proved negative.

A black cow (Marriott's) mentioned in previous report I placed under the Tuberculosis Order, proving on post-mortem advanced tubercular udder clear.

Owners have wisely had retained placentas removed.

Fox's cow mentioned in previous report now satisfactory—greatly improved.

I diagnosed no other case of scheduled disease.

(Signed) GEO. WHITEHEAD, M.R.C.V.S.,
Veterinary Surgeon.

Veterinary Department,
County Hall, Wakefield,
20th February, 1934.

Milk and Dairies Order, 1926.

I beg to inform you that Mr. J. M. McKellar, M.R.C.V.S., D.V.S.M., Assistant Veterinary Officer, has recently made an inspection of the cows on the registered milk producers' premises in your Borough.

Mr. McKellar visited 17 farms and examined 267 cows (251 in milk and 16 dry), taking three samples of milk and one of expectorate for bacteriological examination.

In one sample of milk and the expectorate, tubercle bacilli were demonstrated and the cows responsible were reported to your authority under the provisions of the Tuberculosis Order.

With these exceptions the health of the cows was found to be good, and while their cleanliness on the whole was satisfactory it was reported hardly to be up to the usual standard.

Mr. McKellar was accompanied on his inspection by your Assistant Sanitary Inspector, Mr. Wilkinson.

(Signed) D. S. RABAGLIATI,
Chief Veterinary Officer.

Veterinary Department,
County Hall, Wakefield,
4th July, 1934.

Milk and Dairies Order, 1926.

I beg to inform you that Mr. J. M. McKellar, M.R.C.V.S., D.V.S.M., Assistant Veterinary Officer, has recently made an inspection of the cows on the registered milk producers' premises in your Borough.

Mr. McKellar visited 17 farms and examined 234 cows (231 in milk and 3 dry), taking two samples of milk and one of expectorate for bacteriological examination. In none of these, however, were tubercle bacilli demonstrated.

Mr. McKellar reports that the health of the cows was satisfactory and the cleanliness both of the cattle and premises good.

On his inspection Mr. McKellar was accompanied by the local Assistant Sanitary Inspector, Mr. Wilkinson.

(Signed) D. S. RABAGLIATI,
Chief Veterinary Officer.

13th December, 1934.
Veterinary Department,
County Hall, Wakefield,

Milk and Dairies Order, 1926.

I beg to inform you that Mr. J. M. McKellar, M.R.C.V.S., D.V.S.M., Assistant Veterinary Officer, has recently made an inspection of the cows on the registered milk producers' premises in your Borough, accompanied by your Sanitary Inspector, Mr. Wilkinson.

Mr. McKellar visited 17 farms and examined 270 cows (245 in milk and 25 dry), taking three samples of milk for bacteriological examination. In none of these, however, were tubercle bacilli demonstrated.

One cow suffering from active pulmonary tuberculosis was noted and duly reported under the Tuberculosis Order to your authority.

With the above exception no case of scheduled disease was noted and the health of the cows may be considered to be good. Most of the cattle were found to be clean, but on a few of the farms their cleanliness was not up to the usual standard of the district.

(Signed) D. S. RABAGLIATI,
Chief Veterinary Officer.

COWSHEDS :—

No. of Cowsheds, 30.

No. of Inspections, 112.

No. of Milk Cows, 245.

No. of Cowkeepers, 17.

No. of Cowkeepers who are also retail purveyors of milk, 7.

On pages 45 and 46, 34 and 35, 30 and 46, of the Annual Reports for 1930, 1931, 1932 and 1933, particulars were given of the efforts made, and improvements effected in respect of the premises dealt with under this heading.

During 1934 reconstruction of floors and improvements in connection with lighting, ventilation, drainage, and middenstead were effected to the cowsheds at Grove Farm, Hanging Heaton, and at Sunnybank Farm, Upper Batley, the dairy was improved and modernised.

DAIRIES AND MILKSHOPS :—

No. on the Register, 49. Inspections, 49.

No. of Retail Purveyors with premises outside the Borough, 45.

(b) MEATS AND OTHER FOODS :—

During 1934, 875 visits by day and 55 by night were made to slaughterhouses ; 243 visits by day and 18 by night to meat shops ; and 41 visits by day and 6 by night to the market.

The total number of carcasses and their organs examined in local slaughterhouses was 7,762, consisting of 1,495 Beasts, 254 Calves, 4,001 Sheep, and 2,012 Pigs.

As a result over 6 tons of diseased, unsound or unwholesome meat were condemned and destroyed as being unfit for human food.

On reference to the table shewing Surrenders of Unsound Food, Offals, etc., 1934, it will be observed that the amount condemned is less by nearly one ton than the corresponding figure for the previous year. This is due to a fall in the number of total condemnations in respect of beasts, being 4 for 1934, as against 5 for the previous year, and pigs, being 2 for 1934, as against 6 for the previous year.

Of all meat condemned in the beef class, 84 per cent. was for tuberculosis, as against 81 per cent. for the previous year. As regards pigs, 84 per cent. of the total weight condemned was for tuberculosis, as against 81 per cent. for the previous year.

It will, therefore, be clear that quite apart from the public health aspect, this single disease continues to be the chief factor governing the losses which the trade sustains annually at the instance of the Public Health Department. No legal proceedings were taken during 1934, all diseased, unsound, or unwholesome food dealt with by the Department being condemned in circumstances which permitted of it being voluntarily surrendered for destruction at the Corporation Destructor Works.

The Public Health (Meat) Regulations, 1924.

Legal proceedings were taken under Article 21 (2) (b) of the above-mentioned regulations against a person who, whilst engaged in the handling or transport of meat, did not take such precautions as were reasonably necessary to prevent the exposure of the meat to contamination. Although the defendant pleaded not guilty, the Bench accepted the evidence of the Medical Officer of Health and imposed a fine of £1 and costs. The offence which led to the afore-mentioned proceedings was a particularly disgusting one, as the defendant, a butcher, whilst carrying meat from a vehicle into a shop, was seen by the Medical Officer of Health to wipe his nose upon a butcher's smock which he immediately afterwards placed upon a forequarter of beef with the soiled portion to the meat.

SURRENDERS OF UNSOUND FOOD, OFFAL, ETC., 1934.

Numbers of whole carcases, parts of carcases, organs and offals condemned as unfit for food :—

	Cattle.	Sheep.	Pigs.	Calves.	Total.
Whole carcases, including organs	4	2	2	—	8
Part carcases	1	—	—	—	1
Heads, including tongues	60	—	125	—	185
Lungs	153	3	49	4	209
Livers	115	8	86	4	213
Hearts	6	2	37	1	46
Spleens	6	—	4	1	11
Stomachs	1	2	3	—	6
Diaphragms	5	—	—	—	5
Mesenteries	42	2	90	1	135
Kidneys	19	—	4	—	23
Udders	3	—	—	—	3

CAUSES OF CONDEMNATION AND WEIGHT.

Disease.	Cattle. lbs.	Sheep. lbs.	Pigs. lbs.	Calves. lbs.	Total. lbs.
Tuberculosis	7961	50	2188	26	10225
Distomatosis	917	16	—	—	933
Cirrhosis	42	—	116	—	158
Actinomycosis	72	—	—	—	72
Abscesses	341	—	—	4	345
Parasitic Cysts	68	4	22	—	94
Undefined	30	—	—	—	30
Moribund	—	50	—	—	50
Infarcts	8	—	1	—	9
Peritonitis	—	—	75	—	75
Congestion	—	—	51	—	51
Angioma	34	—	—	—	34
Inflammation	15	22	155	—	192
Total	9,488	142	2,608	30	12,268

	Tons.	Cwts.	Qrs.	Lbs.
equals	5	9	2	4
Prepared Meat (Decomposition)	—	16	—	19
Canned Tongue (Decomposition)	—	—	—	1
Margarine (Decomposition)	—	—	—	2
Banana Curd (Decomposition)	—	—	—	2
Quaker Oats (Maggots)	—	—	—	2
	6	5	3	2

COMPARISON WITH RECENT YEARS.

	Tons.	Cwts.	Qrs.	Lbs.		Tons.	Cwts.	Qrs.	Lbs.
1926	2	11	3	18	1930	10	11	0	26
1927	9	14	1	5	1931	7	3	1	16
1928	9	5	0	7	1932	8	12	2	3
1929	8	12	3	23	1933	7	4	0	17

THE SLAUGHTER OF ANIMALS ACT, 1933.

Full information as to the general objects of the Act and the administrative measures taken to secure the due observance of its provisions in the Borough, were fully described on pages 48 to 50 of the Annual Report for 1933.

The number of licensed slaughtermen recorded in the register at the end of the year under review was 45.

After the 1st March, 1934, Sec. 1 of the Act, which makes the use of a mechanically-operated instrument in proper repair obligatory for stunning animals in the course of slaughter in slaughter-houses, was in the Borough applied to sheep, that is, in addition to beasts, calves, and pigs, which already came within the scope of that section from the commencement of the Act.

As regards the results of the working of this Act the experience of the Department is that, notwithstanding the initial opposition of the butchers against the abolition of the pole-axe as a stunning instrument, slaughter-men have found the mechanically-operated instrument so much more efficient and easy to apply, that none of them to-day would choose to revert to the old methods of slaughter, even were the option to do so available. This consideration is quite apart from the humane aspect, as regards which it is true to state that wherever the Act has been applied as it has in the Borough, cruelty has been eliminated from the butchering trade.

SLAUGHTER-HOUSES :—

No. of premises, 13.	Inspections, 930.
No. of premises improved, 1.	

The poor condition and lack of general suitability of most local slaughterhouses was treated fully in pages 36, 37, and 43 of the Annual Reports for the year 1927, 1928 and 1930 respectively.

The adverse comments and suggestions made therein apply with equal force to-day.

OFFENSIVE TRADES : —

No. of premises, 3 (excluding Fried Fish Shops).
No. of inspections, 11.
No. of premises improved, 1.

The number of inspections given above does not represent the actual inspections made, as two important premises are run in conjunction with slaughter-houses, and visits are included in in-

spectations under that heading. The processes carried on are Tripe Boiling, Fat Rendering and Gut Scraping. The premises are in the main satisfactory.

FRIED FISH SHOPS :—

No. of premises, 65. No. of inspections, 82.

No. of premises improved, 19.

Steady progress continues to be made towards raising the hygienic standard of these premises to what is required by the Byelaws relating to Offensive Trades, put into force by the Corporation on the 7th February, 1930.

ICE-CREAM PREMISES :—

No. of premises, 18. Inspections, 24.

No. of premises improved, 4.

BAKEHOUSES :—

No. of premises, 37. Inspections, 52.

No. of premises improved, 7.

All the above three classes of premises have been kept under observation and attention given to nuisances and defects as and when such matters have arisen.

COMMON LODGING-HOUSES :—

No. of Houses, 2; Keepers, 2; Inspections, 4.

The houses are small concerns consisting of five sleeping-rooms capable of accommodating 46 lodgers in the one case and four sleeping-rooms used by 21 lodgers in the other. Structurally, both houses fall short to a considerable degree of the officially recommended standards governing this particular type of building.

Further to the remarks in the last Annual Report as to the intention of the Medical Officer of Health to officially represent to the Town Council one of these houses, i.e., No. 9, Well Lane, as an individual unfit house which under Sec. 19, Housing Act, 1930, could not be rendered fit at a reasonable expense, this intention was duly put into effect on the 17th January, 1934. As a result, an undertaking pursuant to the Act was given by the Owner, and accepted by the Corporation, that after a period of three months from the 7th March, 1934, the house would not be used for human habitation. This undertaking not having been complied with by the 1st August, 1934, a Demolition Order for Breach of Undertaking was on that date made by the Town Council.

The Owner again having defaulted, and the Order not being complied with by the end of the year, the Town Council decided to carry out the demolition themselves failing compliance with the Order by the 17th January, 1935.

It may be stated that at the time of writing this report, the house had been vacated and demolition commenced by the Owner.

RAG FLOCK ACTS, 1911 and 1928.

No samples were taken during the year.

RATS AND MICE (DESTRUCTION) ACT, 1919.

There were 56 inspections of rat-infested premises resulting in the necessary action being taken by the occupiers.

During National Rat Week, 1934, advertisements were inserted in the local press calling attention to the provisions of The Rats and Mice (Destruction) Act, 1919. The premises usually found infested in Batley are poultry-keeping allotments, whereon the indiscriminate throwing down of food to the fowls constitutes an attractive means of sustenance for vermin. If only this fault could be corrected amongst keepers of live-stock, a great step forward in the interests of vermin repression would be achieved.

(c) ADULTERATION, ETC.

FOOD AND DRUGS (ADULTERATION) ACTS, 1928.

Public Health (Preservatives, etc., in Food) Regulations, 1925.

(This section is by the Senior Sanitary Inspector (Mr. H. Hornby).)

During the year 61 samples of milk and 2 of butter as detailed in Table I were purchased and submitted to the Public Analyst, who certified 58 samples to be genuine and 5 adulterated. This represents an adulteration figure of 8 per cent. as against 9 per cent. for the previous year. Particulars of any administrative action taken in respect of the samples adulterated are given in Table II., wherein it will be seen that legal proceedings were not taken in any instance.

A further comparison shews that of the 61 milk samples analysed, 5 were adulterated, which gives an adulteration figure for milk of 8 per cent., as against a similar percentage for the previous year.

On reference to Table III, which gives the average composition of milk samples, it will be seen that the average fat content of 3.61 per cent. for 1934 was rather better than the figure for the previous year, which was 3.5 per cent.

TABLE I.

Particulars of Foods sampled and Results of Analysis.

Sample.	Formal.	Informal.	Genuine.	Adulter- ated.	Doubt- ful.	Total.
Milk	61	—	56	5	—	61
Butter	—	2	2	—	—	2
Totals	61	2	58	5	—	63

TABLE II.

Administrative action taken in respect of samples reported by the Public Analyst to be not genuine.

Spl No.	Nature of sample and results of analysis.	Remarks.
1/30	Milk—Fat 2.30% Solids not fat ... 9.30%	Reported to Public Health Committee. Appeal to cow sample proved genuine but was of no value as certain changes had taken place in the herd. On a second sample from the same retailer being genuine, the Committee did not authorise further action.
2/6	Milk—Fat 2.80% Solids not fat ... 9.00%	Reported to Public Health Committee, who instructed that further samples be taken (see sample No. 14).
2/11	Milk—Fat 2.88% Solids not fat ... 9.26%	Reported to Public Health Committee, who instructed the Town Clerk to draw the attention of the retailer and producer to the deficiency indicated.
2/14	Milk—Fat 2.94% Solids not fat ... 9.00%	Reported to Public Health Committee, who instructed the Town Clerk to draw the attention of the retailer and producer to the deficiency indicated. (Same vendor as for sample 2/6).
2/18	Milk—Fat 2.89% Solids not fat ... 9.09%	Appeal to cow sample. Reported to Public Health Committee, who took no further action in view of the fact that the producer had been given a warning by another authority in whose district the milk was retailed.

TABLE III.

Monthly Average Composition of Milk Samples.

Month.	No. of Samples.	Analytical Data.	
		Average Milk Fat, per cent.	Average Non-fatty solids per cent.
January	13	3.43	9.12
February	8	3.61	9.12
March	—	—	—
April	8	3.58	9.19
May	—	—	—
June	8	3.29	9.16
July	7	3.31	8.95
August	—	—	—
September	—	—	—
October	9	4.11	9.15
November	—	—	—
December	8	3.95	8.96
Average for the year 1934		3.61	9.10
Average for the year 1933		3.50	9.04
Average for the year 1932		3.61	8.97
Average for the year 1931		3.48	8.90
Average for the year 1930		3.58	8.97
Requirements of the Sale of Milk Regulations, 1901		3.00	8.50

TABLE IV.

Articles of Food examined for Preservative in accordance with the Public Health (Preservatives, etc., in Food) Regulations, 1925.

Food.	No. of samples examined.	Nature of Preservative.	Amount.		Remarks.
			Allowed.	Found.	
Milk	61	—	Nil.	Nil.	No prohibited colouring matter.
Butter	2	—	Nil.	Nil.	

(d) CHEMICAL AND BACTERIOLOGICAL EXAMINATION OF FOOD has not—apart from milk—been required during 1934. Reference may be made to page 58 of the Annual Report for 1933 of the Medical Officer of Health, where further particulars appear.

(e) NUTRITION.—Reference may be made to page 58 of the above-mentioned report. The position is similar to-day.

SECTION F.—PREVALENCE OF, AND CONTROL OVER, INFECTIOUS AND OTHER DISEASES.

Notifiable Diseases (other than Tuberculosis) during the Year 1934.

DISEASE.	Total Cases Notified	NUMBER OF CASES NOTIFIED.												Cases Admitted to Hospital	Total Deaths
		Under 1 year	1-2 years	2-3 years	3-4 years	4-5 years	5-10 years	10-15 years	15-20 years	20-35 years	35-45 years	45-65 years	65 and over		
		1 year	years	years	years	years	years	years	years	years	years	years	years		
Smallpox .....	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Scarlet Fever	131	..	3	3	14	8	51	34	8	9	4	..	..	120	1
Diphtheria	175	1	2	9	9	9	77	54	6	11	4	1	..	169	21
Enteric Fever (including Paratyphoid) .....	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Puerperal Fever	2	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	2	..	..	2*	1
Puerperal Pyrexia	2	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	2	..	..	..	2	..
Pneumonia	19	1	..	1	1	2	7	..	..	6	1	..	1	9	1
Other diseases generally notifiable—	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Erysipelas	16	..	..	..	..	..	..	2	..	2	5	6	1	..	..
Cerebro Spinal Meningitis	2	..	..	..	..	..	..	1	..	..	..	1	..	2	1
Ophthalmia Neonatorum	2	2	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
*Ac. Anterior Poliomyelitis	1	..	..	..	..	..	1	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Other diseases notifiable locally .....	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Totals	350	4	1	5	24	19	136	91	14	30	16	8	2	304	25

* Both patients were inmates of Batley and District Hospital at time of notification.

The above figures are not correct because up to the year end no arrangements existed for notifying the Medical Officer of Health instances where cases were found after admission to the Oakwell Hospital not to be suffering from the disease originally stated. At the Dewsbury Hospital such arrangements do exist now. Attention is drawn to page 59 of the Annual Report for 1933 in reference thereto. The Corporation has made requests at various times for this information without success. More than fifty per cent. of the expenditure at Oakwell Hospital is provided by Batley ratepayers.

As an illustration of what is meant the following figures were furnished recently in Parliament by the Minister of Health when asked about Diphtheria in Birmingham by a Member:—

BIRMINGHAM DIPHTHERIA CASES.

Year.	Column 1. Total number of suspected cases of Diphtheria admitted to hospital.	Column 2. No. of cases in Column 1, which proved not to be Diphtheria.
1931	1,728	690
1932	1,156	609
1933	788	441

SMALLPOX.—No case was notified during 1934.

SCARLET FEVER.—One hundred and thirty-one cases were notified during the year as against three hundred and sixteen the previous year. The type generally was mild. One death occurred. There were sixteen return cases.

DIPHTHERIA.—The figures for this disease had risen, by the end of 1934, from 39 in 1930, 52 in 1931, 41 in 1932, 46 in 1933, to 131. The deaths from Diphtheria during the past five years were 1930—4, 1931—8, 1932—5, 1933—7, 1934—21, a total of 45. In addition a number of those who recovered were more or less crippled for lengthy periods. The type of disease in 1934 was that known as the gravis. There were seventeen return cases.

The principal causes of spread were largely the bad housing of many residents in Batley, overcrowding, neglect to call in medical assistance until too late, and in many instances refusal to take elementary precautions such as keeping away from infected houses or refusing admission to persons from such houses. Many hours were spent in the schools and the homes of the people, giving advice, examining and swabbing suspects, and in other customary methods for combating outbreaks of such nature. In the Annual Report for 1931 of the Medical Officer of Health (page 61) reference is made to Immunisation against Diphtheria, and similar advice has been given at different times during following years without effect. In December the public became alarmed and at a meeting of the Public Health Committee on December 18th a sub-committee was appointed to meet on January 7th, 1935, "to

confer with the Medical Officer of Health as to the arrangements which might be made in this Borough for providing facilities for diphtheria immunisation and report thereon."

TABLE SHEWING THE HOUSING ACCOMMODATION OF CASES OF SCARLET FEVER AND DIPHTHERIA NOTIFIED DURING THE YEAR 1934.

No. of Rooms	Number of Persons											
	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12
1												
2		1	14	12	21	14	4	4	1		2	
3		1	12	35	21	16	7	2	3	2		
4		1	11	19	11	9	2	4	2	4		
5		1	5	9	12	8	4	1	4	2		1
6				2	2	2	1	1		1	1	
7 or over				1	2	2		2	1			

ENTERIC FEVER (including PARATYPHOID) was not notified during 1934.

PUERPERAL FEVER and PUERPERAL PYREXIA.—Two cases of puerperal fever were notified, both patients being resident in Batley and District Hospital at the time of notification. One proved fatal, the cause being certified as (a) Puerperal Sepsis, (b) Caesarean Section, (c) Obstructed Labour. The other patient resided outside Batley. Of the cases notified as Puerperal Pyrexia, one was confined outside Batley and removed to Batley Hospital whilst the other was attended in the Maternity Home by a doctor who arranged for her removal to the County Hospital (Poor Law), where Puerperal Fever was diagnosed.

PNEUMONIA (Acute Primary and Acute Influenzal).—The regulations respecting the notification of this disease are largely ignored by practitioners. As an example it may be stated that 13 deaths were registered as being caused by pneumonia—not necessarily acute primary, or acute influenzal pneumonia—but only 19 cases of the latter were notified. It is certain that considerably more persons attacked by the disease recovered than died. Failure to notify has been mentioned on various occasions in previous annual reports.

ERYSIPELAS was notified 16 times. No special comment called for.

CEREBRO SPINAL MENINGITIS.—Two cases were notified, both from Batley Hospital. One was a boy aged 14 and the other a woman aged 55. The former recovered but the latter died. There appeared to be no association between the two patients, who resided in entirely different parts of the town and were admitted to Batley Hospital, where the actual condition was diagnosed after admission.

ACUTE ANTERIOR POLIOMYELITIS was notified in connection with a boy aged five who remained at home under a doctor's treatment, ultimately being sent by that doctor for massage to Dewsbury Infirmary. Some paralysis of muscles of the left leg remained.

INFLUENZA called for no special comment, there being no epidemic of the disease.

NON-NOTIFIABLE ACUTE INFECTIOUS DISEASES become known to the department principally through the agency of Teachers, Health Visitors, School Nurses, School Attendance Officers, Parents, etc. During 1934 Head Teachers notified 168 and the School Attendance Officers 45 cases.

The average weekly number of scholars excluded either as patients or contacts during the year for notifiable or non-notifiable diseases was :—

Scarlet Fever	28.6	Mumps	0.5
Diphtheria	25.9	Ringworm	0.5
Para Typhoid Fever ...	Nil.	Impetigo	1.5
Measles	8.6	Contagious Ophthalmia	Nil.
Whooping Cough	16.2	Scabies and Itch	1.2
Chickenpox	12.6	Vermineous Conditions ...	4.1
Smallpox	Nil	Cerebro-Spinal Menin-	
Ac. Anterior Poliomyelitis	0.07	gitis	0.07

No locally contracted case of ANTHRAX or RABIES was notified during the year, but a case of Anthrax was notified from Batley Hospital, the patient being a girl aged 20, who worked in a textile factory outside Batley. Epidemic jaundice, Undulant Fever, or Psittacosis was unknown, and Rheumatic Fever called for no special comment.

No compulsory cleansing of VERMINOUS PERSONS was resorted to, but many scholars were cleansed from vermin by their parents under threat of prosecution. A number of families were cleansed from vermin either on themselves or their effects before removal to newly-built houses from a clearance area. Reference may be made to the Housing Section of this annual report.

3. (a) CANCER DEATH RATE.—Figures shewing the death rates in Batley from Cancer are given in a summary on page 64 of the Annual Report for 1933. The rate for the year 1934 for Batley is 1.7 per 1,000.

The death-rate per 1,000 from Cancer for England and Wales for 1933 was 1.6. The 1934 figures are not yet available.

Cancer Research is continued locally at the Leeds University, in conjunction with the British Empire Cancer Campaign.

(b) PREVENTION OF BLINDNESS.

No action has been taken under Sec. 66 Public Health Act, 1925, for the prevention of blindness or for the treatment of persons suffering from any disease or injury to the eyes, the local facilities appearing to be sufficient.

OPHTHALMIA NEONATORUM, 1934.

Year	CASES			Vision Unim- paired	Vision Impaired	Total Blindness	Death
	Nctified	Treated					
		At Home	In Hospital				
1934	2	2	..	2	..	..	..

**(c) PUBLIC HEALTH (PREVENTION OF TUBERCULOSIS)
REGULATIONS, 1925.**

PUBLIC HEALTH ACT, 1925, Section 62.

No action was taken or called for during 1934.

TUBERCULOSIS IN BATLEY, 1934.

Age Periods.	NEW CASES.				DEATHS.			
	Respiratory		Non Respiratory		Respiratory		Non Respiratory	
	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.
0	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	..
1	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
5	1	1	4	4	...	...	1	1
15	1	1	1	1	...	1	...	1
25	2	...	...	...	2	3	...	...
35	1	1	1	1	3	3	...	...
45	2	1	...	1	1	1	...	...
55	2	...	...	...	3	...	...	...
65 & upwards	1	...	...	...	2	...	...	...
Totals	11	4	6	7	11	8	2	2

The relationship between notification of tuberculosis and deaths from the disease is shown in the following table, which covers the period between January 1st, 1913, and December 31st, 1934 :—

Death before notification ... 107	Death 6 months after 17
Death 1 month, or under	Death 7 months after 17
after notification 162	Death 8 months after 8
Death 2 months after 50	Death 9 months after 6
Death 3 months after 29	Death 10 months after 4
Death 4 months after 18	Death 11 months after 9
Death 5 months after 17	Death 12 months and over ... 126

The ratio of non-notified tuberculosis deaths to total tuberculosis deaths during 1934 was 6 to 23, or 26.1 per cent.

The Regulations respecting the notification of Tuberculosis are largely ignored.

Housing conditions of patients notified to be suffering from Pulmonary Tuberculosis during the 16 years 1919 to 1934 were as follows :—

Years	Notifica- tions		Type of House		Occupants,									Houses with more than one Patient Notified	Rooms.					Bedrooms.				Sleeping Accommodation for Patients.					
	M.	F.	B. to B.	Sine Die	Through	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8		9 and over	1	2	3	4	5	6 and over	1	2	3	4 and over	Separate Room.	Shared Room.	Separate Bed	Shared Bed
						1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8		over														
1919 to 1934 (inclusive)	368	297	310	163	176	366	141	125	125	72	50	25	42	81	57	205	193	108	57	29	230	303	100	15	153	500	315	338	
Year 1934	*11	4	6	6	—	—	1	6	—	5	—	—	—	—	4	4	1	2	1	—	7	3	2	—	2	10	4	8	

* 2 Males and 1 Female for whom no particulars re housing conditions are available.

I desire to record, once again, my appreciation of the work done in the various branches of the Public Health Department by the members thereof, and the assistance they have invariably rendered me on all occasions.

To Mr. Hornby, Senior Sanitary Inspector, I am indebted for help in the preparation of this, my twenty-fifth annual report on the health of Batley, and for his loyal co-operation always.

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